Abbott, Cecil James Frederic

- **Regiment:** Lt. H.A.C. 1914-18, desp.
- **Decorations:** M.B.E., M.C.
- **Birth Year:** 1893
- **Rank:** Lt.

**Dr. Charles Gallannaugh**

Cecil Abbot (CIFA) was the only child of Frederic William Abbott and his wife Lilian. Frederic was born in Redruth in Cornwall the son of Samuel Abbott a stockbroker. He moved later to London and practised as what is now known as a general medical practitioner in Streatham, then part of Balham, where CIFA was born on 16 May 1893 (GRO Wandsworth 1d 792).

In 1908 his father sent Cecil to Epsom College as a boarder and he entered Propert House in Form Middle Modern 2. His school career from the academic point of view was average (EC Yellow Books) but he was a distinguished sportsman playing rugger, cricket and hockey for the school first teams. He left school in July 1911.

In 1914 he signed up as a private soldier in the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC No. 1254) and landed in France at St Nazaire on 18th September of that year as part of the 1st Battalion HAC. All units of the HAC were part of the Territorial Force. In November 1914 the battalion was transferred to the 8th Brigade in the 3rd Division of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF).

They were soon to be engaged in the early battles of the war in Flanders initially those of La Bassee and Messines and then the first battle of Ypres where the HAC appears to have been held in reserve. The heavy fighting which occurred at that time must have been brought home to the 3rd Division soon after their arrival at the front when their own commander General Hubert Hamilton was killed on the 14th October. The employment of Territorial Forces for the first time in action was emphasised by Field Marshal Sir John French in his Fourth Report of 27th November 1914 to the War Office covering the engagements of the BEF at that time:

> "In the period covered by this despatch Territorial Troops have been used for the first time in the Army under my command. The units actually engaged have been the Northumberland, Northamptonshire, North Somerset, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire Regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry; and the London Scottish, Hertfordshire, Honourable Artillery Company and the Queen’s Westminster Battalions of Territorial Infantry. The conduct and bearing of these units under fire, and the efficient manner in which they carried out the various duties assigned to them, have imbued me with the highest hope as to the value and help of Territorial Troops generally" (The LLT).

For his service in 1914 CIFA would in due course be awarded the 1914 Star with clasp and roses and joined those therefore who were later to be dubbed the “Old Contemptibles” following an abusive slur on the soldiers of the BEF by the Kaiser. The clasp was the only clasp attached to a campaign medal of WW1 being awarded to those who had been under enemy fire before the night of 22-23 November 1914 (Mental Roll Index).

In due course he applied for a commission and in September 1916 he moved from officer cadet training to the rank of 2/Lt. on probation and was posted to the 2nd Battalion HAC which was then stationed at the Tower of London. On the 3rd October 1917 the battalion moved to France landing at Le Havre under command of the 22nd Brigade in the 7th Division.

The 7th Division was part of the Fifth Army commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Hubert Gough and took part in the campaign known as the ‘Operations on the Ancre’ which followed the Battle of the Somme from November 1916 to May 1917 (FM Haig’s Ancre Despatch LG19/06/1917). The main aim appears to have been to harass the enemy following the Somme offensive and to take prisoners to reduce the effectivness and morale of the German forces whenever possible. The HAC took part in the Battle of Bullecourt, part of the Arras offensive, in May 1917 and then later that year in September the Battle of Polygon Wood part of the 3rd Battle of Ypres during which it was under control of the Second Army commanded by General Sir Herbert Plumer.

In November 1917 the 7th Division moved to Italy still under the command of General Plumer. After the nightmare of the trenches in France many of the soldiers talked of the move to Italy as being “like another world” (LLT). The Division took up
position along the River Piave, the HAC fighting with the 22 Brigade. Eventually they took part in the crossing of the Piave at the Battle of Vittoria Veneto which led to the defeat of Austria-Hungary. For his actions during this campaign Lt (A/Capt.) CJF Abbott was awarded the Military Cross (LG 6 Jan 1919 13380 p 100). As was the custom in the King’s Birthday or New Year Honours List a general citation “For military service in Italy” was given rather than a personal citation as on other occasions. However the MC was only awarded for acts of exemplary bravery during active operations against the enemy and clearly CJFA led his troops with great courage in the fighting on the river Piave. In addition to this decoration and the 1914 Star with clasp he received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

After the war CJFA remained in the army but in 1921 he left the HAC and joined the Manchester Regt. as a lieutenant (LG 24/06/1921 32369 p5083). In 1923 he married Violet May Cross (GRO London St Martin 2nd Qtr. 1a 1119) but there appear to have been no children of the marriage and little is known of their personal life together as opposed to his military career. In 1934 they both visited Jamaica and their address at that time on the ship’s manifest was in Mill Hill London NW7.

His military career in the Manchester Regt. progressed and in 1926 he was promoted to captain (LG 33364 p 1680) a position he held until 1931. In 1933 he was serving as a major with the 1st Battalion of the Manchester Regt. and then in 1940 was in HQ Brest (sub-area) with the BEF and in July of that year he became MBE (LG 34893 p 4248). In June 1943 as a T/Lt Colonel he returned to England as part of the Provost Staff Corps and took over as Commandant of the Northallerton Military Prison and Detention Barracks where he remained until October 1945 when he retired with the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel (LG 37294 p 4890). His service in WW2 would have entitled him to the War Medal 1939-1945 and the 1939-45 Star in addition to his MBE.

In retirement following his distinguished military career it appears he and his wife moved to Bournemouth Dorset where he died in March 1978 age 84 (GRO B’mouth vol 23 p 0023).

Sources:
Ancestry
GRO
London Gazette (LG)
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Medal Roll Index
Epsom College Yellow Books
TNA Long No. p21162 (Held by the MOD)
The Long, Long Trail. The British Army 1914-1918
Forces War Records


Adams, Francis Philip

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>1896-1942</th>
</tr>
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Francis Philip Adams (FPA) was born 25th August 1896 (GRO London City 1c p7) the youngest child of Dr John Adams FRCS and his wife Ellen Sparrow Worth. John Adams, the son of a yeoman farmer in Malborough near Kingsbridge in Devon, studied medicine at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London and later practised as a general practitioner in Aldersgate Street in the City. He served as a Colonel in the territorial arm of the RAMC in WW1 (BMJ Obit). His brother and a cousin were both Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons (Plarr’s Lives). FPA had one brother, John, who also became a doctor who served as a Surgeon Lieutenant RN in WW1 and five sisters.

In 1909 he went to Epsom College entering the lower school in Fayrer House in the Lower III form. By 1911 he had progressed to the middle school and moved to Carr House initially studying classics but later moving to the modern side where he passed his London Matriculation in June 1914. In the upper school he passed the 1st MB for a medical degree at London University. By then he had become a school prefect and played in the 1st XV rugger. He left the College in 1915.
When he left school his father, who at one time was Master of the Tinplate Company in the City, enrolled him as an apprentice for four years with Frederic Brown, a tinplate worker in Great Eastern St. EC, where he was to learn the craft of a motor manufacturer. However it seems that plans for him to join the embryo motor industry were disrupted almost immediately by the war. In August 1915 he applied to join the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) and on his application form he stated that he had served in the OTC at Epsom as a sergeant. The headmaster Walter Barton provided evidence as to his good moral character and the O.C. of the OTC, Capt. HF Lee MA who happened also to have been his housmaster at Epsom, wrote of his time in the Corps from 1911 until 1915 during which he attended two annual camps (TNA WO 339). The University of London War list published in 1918, which listed the names of those who participated in the Great War, records his name as a matriculated student noting that he was wounded although no other details of this have been found.

His first military appointment was in August 1915 in the RFA when he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. (LG 29267 p8247). However in June 1917 he was transferred from the RFA Special Reserve to the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) as a Flying Officer [Observer] (LG 30109 p5437) and he remained with the RFC becoming a Flying Officer in the Royal Air Force when it was established in April 1918.

His subsequent career in the RAF is rather confusing. According to his war record (TNA WO 339) he was demobilised in May 1919 and transferred to the unemployed list (LG 31361 p6515). His last unit was at Redcar. He was placed on the Special Reserve of Officers and told to re-join in an emergency at Chingford He was graded as medical category A1 and his address was given then as that of his father at 180 Aldersgate London EC. He was subsequently awarded the British War and Victory Medals by the Air Ministry.

However it seems that he was soon re-called or he re-joined the RAF as on 7th December 1921 he was married at Manchester Cathedral to Doris Watson Gee daughter of an army captain and on the marriage register he gave his occupation as ‘Captain RAF’. He apparently served later in Egypt as on 14th August 1925, giving his profession as ‘RAF’, he and his wife Doris arrived at the Port of London on the P & O liner ‘Malorca’ having joined the ship at Port Said on its voyage from Sydney to London (Ancestry). They gave their last permanent residence as Egypt and their forwarding address as ‘The Secretary, Air Ministry, London’. Nevertheless shortly after their return in November 1925 Flying Officer F Philip Adams was transferred to the Reserve Class A list by the Air Ministry (LG 33103 p7513) and his time with the colours came to an end although he continued to play an active part in the reserve. In June 1926 he attended De Havilland’s for training, no doubt to maintain his flying skills and his record noted “Shows very high ability. Cat. 1” and again in a subsequent year “Very fine pilot. Cat. 1” (WO AIR 76/2/1). As a consequence no doubt of his obvious flying skills he was given an extra 4 years in the reserve at Class A before finally, in November 1934, he was re-graded Class C on grounds of age (LG 34120 p65) and his flying career ended. At that time he was living at 3 Watersplash Rd., Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex but he moved later to 54 Shepherd Market, London W1. After leaving the active list in 1925 he must have taken up his place at London University receiving his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital qualifying MRCS LRCP in 1931 (Plarrs Lives). He went into general practice in Aldersgate, London no doubt with his father. He was also Clinical Assistant in the Throat and Nose Department at St Bartholomew’s Hospital (OE Doctors).

FPA died age 45 in the King Edward VII Sanatorium at Midhurst in Sussex on the 19th March 1942 in the final stage of a terminal illness, most probably tuberculosis. In the absence of any children of his marriage his estate was left to his eldest married sister, Annie Wroth Knight (Probate Register). At the time of writing it has not been possible to ascertain the date of his wife’s death.

Sources:

Ancestry

The National Archive (TNA) WO 339/38517: AIR 76/2/1
Plarr’s Lives of the Fellows RCS online. John Adams FRCS. GRO

BMJ Obit February 1938

War Record University of London 1918

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College Archive ‘OE Doctors’

Marriage Record Manchester Cathedral

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

Adams, Francis Philip (1896-1942). Epsom College: 1909-1915

FRANCIS PHILIP ADAMS (1896-1942). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1909-1915. prefect. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr
Dr David John Adams-Lewis
1891-1951

David John Adams-Lewis (DJAL) was born on 16th July 1891 at Hafren Hall, Mydrim (Epsom College register) a very small village in Carmarthenshire, now Dyfed, about 6 miles north of St. Clears. He was the only child of Dr Benjamin Adams-Lewis and his wife Elizabeth. Dr Benjamin was born in Llanboidy a few miles from Mydrim the son of a farmer, David Lewis and his wife Mary Adams, who appear to have farmed in the area for many years. David Lewis had several sons and in 1870 one of them was named John Adams Lewis possibly to distinguish him from a farm hand, also John Lewis, who was employed by his father. The name of Lewis appears to have been so common in the region that in due course the other children of David’s family including Benjamin adopted the Adams prefix taking their mother’s maiden name in addition to their father’s. At the time DJAL was born Dr Benjamin Adams-Lewis lived in Hafren Hall in Mydrim where he practised as a general practitioner.

In September 1906 DJAL went to Epsom College from his former school, St. Andrew’s Tenby, as disclosed on his military application forms later. He joined Wilson House and did well at school passing his Oxford & Cambridge school certificate exam in 1907 1st Class, studying on the modern scientific side through to the upper school. He became a school prefect before leaving from the Upper VI in 1910 to study medicine at the London Hospital.

His involvement in military activity began while he was at Epsom (TNA Army Form B 201). He joined the OTC and became a Lance Corporal before he left the College. Towards the latter part of his medical studies in June 1915 he joined the RNVR as a surgeon probationer (TNA WO 339) but a year later in August 1916 he resigned with a view to joining the RAMC when he qualified.

He applied to join the Special Reserve of Officers in October 1917 and on his application form he declared his former involvement with the RNVR although he had not been involved in military operations. However he does appear to have been involved with the BEF in 1914 as his Medal Roll Index card records that he served as a dresser with the British Red Cross Society (BRCS) Boulogne Unit No 5 which was stationed at Wimereux (LLT). This unit left for France on 28 Oct 1914 and this date is the disembarkation date recorded on DJAL’s medal index card. In due course he was awarded the 1914 Star along with his Victory and War Medal. The House Governor of the London Hospital forwarded his application for the 1914 Star to the military authorities in December 1917 and it would seem that as a senior medical student he spent some time in France at the beginning of hostilities before presumably returning to resume his medical studies at the London Hospital where he qualified in 1917.

His RAMC application form in October 1917 was accompanied by a letter from the House Governor of the London Hospital where he had just qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. requesting the army authorities to allow the hospital “to let us retain his services for three months”. The Governor also pointed out that he was “shortly going for his M.B” something he duly achieved (OE Doctors). This was agreed to by the War Office (TNA WO 339) although it was pointed out in correspondence that he could not be commissioned until he reported for duty which was postponed until March 1918 when he was commissioned in the RAMC with the rank of lieutenant (LG April 30621 p 4371).

DJAL married on 21 February 1918 in the Parish Church, Epsom, Kathleen Mary Baddeley the 22 year old daughter of Sir John Baddeley, Bt. who was a wholesale stationer (EPC Register). DJA’s home address was recorded as Mydrim Carmarthenshire and his bride’s as Denham, College Road, Epsom and he gave this address for his wife as next of kin when he was posted abroad shortly after they were married.

When he joined the RAMC he was first sent on a ten day course with other new recruits to the Military Hospital in Rocher Row SW1 to study the management of venereal disease, a condition the prevalence of which was causing some anxiety in the Army Medical Corps at the time. On completion of the course he was required to report to the RAMC Training Centre in Blackpool and after a short period of training was sent to East Africa where in June 1918 he arrived to join the hospital ship ‘Ebani’. Quite soon he was sent into the field to serve with No. 3 East African Field Ambulance. Unfortunately there was an “epidemic outbreak in East Africa” of influenza at that time to which DJA succumbed and in November he was admitted to hospital in Dar-es-Salaam from where he was transferred to Cape Town. On 22nd January 1919 he was sent back to England.
arriving in Liverpool in February. He spent a short time recovering at Horton, County of London War Hospital in Epsom before being demobilised in April 1919. On his demobilisation papers he was graded medically as C and signed himself as a Captain RAMC resident at Hafren Hall, Mydrim, Carmarthenshire (TNA WO 339).

It would appear that he returned to his former teaching hospital, the London Hospital, after leaving the army and worked for a while as a casualty officer and resident anaesthetist to gain further experience before going back to Wales with his wife to join his father in practice at Hafren Hall. He was also appointed Honorary Medical Officer for the County Infirmary Carmarthen (OE Doctors). After his father’s death in 1942 DJAL and his wife remained at Hafren Hall where Kathleen died in 1951 (GRO Carmarthen 8a 248). DJAL died at Hafren Hall age 65 in 1957 (GRO Carmarthen 8a 252) his estate of £23,326 (£490,000 in 2013) being left in the absence of any children of the marriage to an unmarried relative, Sheila Myfanwy Adams-Lewis (GRO Probate record 1957).

Sources:
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Epsom College Yellow Books & website - OE Doctors
Epsom Parish Church (EPC) Ancestry
The National Archives (TNA) WO 339/95967
General Registry Office (GRO)
London Gazette (LG)
Long, Long Trail (LLT) – Great War Forum

Charles Gallannaugh May 2015

Addenbrooke, Arthur

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Buried</th>
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<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Capt. 14th Bn., Royal Warwickshire Regiment</td>
<td>05/10/16 aged 34</td>
<td>Kidderminster Churchyard, Worcestershire</td>
<td>Forces Section</td>
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Arthur Addenbrooke was born in Kidderminster on 30 May 1882 (GRO reference: September 1882 Kidderminster 6c 231) to Edward Homfray and Marianne Addenbrooke (nee Downing). Arthur’s parents married on 4 August 1870 in Kingswinford, Warwickshire.

Arthur Addenbrooke And His Siblings

Henry Edward Born: 28 July 1871 Kidderminster Emigrated to USA in 1890
Francis Andrew Born: 30 Nov 1872 Kidderminster Died: 15 Dec 1918 Was a sheep farmer. Married Lily A Paine 1918 Brighton
Bertram Born: 28 Oct 1874 Kidderminster Died: 22 Jan 1929 Kidderminster. Was a doctor of medicine
Married Frances Edith Mayne 1903 Ireland
In 1871 Arthur’s 25 year old father, Edward Homfrey and his mother 21 year old Marianne were living in Mill Street, Kidderminster. Edward Homfrey was working as a surgeon and general practitioner. No house number is given, but their property is listed somewhere between number 34 and 418 The house number varies in subsequent census returns but in each return the family is living next door to an industrial building, which suggests the street was renumbered rather than the family had moved.

In 1881 their address is listed as 39, Mill Street, Kidderminster, next to a carpet factory. By this time Arthur’s parents, Edward Homfrey and Marianne, had produced five children: Henry aged 9, Francis aged 8, Bertram aged 6, Eleanor aged 4 and baby Dorothy who was six months old. The family employed a nurse, two servants and a cook to help look after them.

In 1891 the family was recorded at 28, Mill Street, but still next door to an industrial building. Edward Homfrey Addenbrooke had retired from general practice. Two more children had been born, Arthur aged 8 and Robert Geoffrey aged 18 Edward Homfrey’s 42 year old sister Emma Pidcock Addenbrooke was staying with the family as well as Charles Percy Barton aged 10. They still had a children’s nurse but only one housemaid living in, and a cook.

The family was living at 34, Mill Street, next to a factory, in 19018 Arthur is recorded as a boarder at Kings School, Myton, which is known today as Warwick School, one of the oldest public schools in the country. He was an able sportsman, and held the Warwick School record for running 100 yards hurdles in 17.6 seconds in 19018 He was in the Warwick School XI for cricket (Wisden) and was able to ride. He was also a long standing member of the school cadet corps.

The following year Arthur took up a place at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and scored 34 in the Oxford Freshmen’s match in 1902. He was captain of the Corpus Christi Eleven and played for the Authentics.

Arthur took up a position of Master at Victoria College, Jersey for a while before becoming an Assistant Master at Forest House, Epsom College from 1907 to November 1914, when he enlisted.

Arthur had a reasonable degree of military training having spent six years in the Warwick School cadet corps and the Epsom College OTC from 1908. Before joining the 14th (1st Birmingham) Battalion of The Royal Warwickshire Regiment on 20 November 1914, he had been a Lieutenant in the unattached list for the Territorial Force, which he left to take up his temporary commission as Captain in the Warwicks. He passed his medical on 22 November 1914, and was posted to the 14th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, which was in the 13th Brigade, 5th Division. The Battalion landed at Boulogne, France on 21 November 1915.

Arthur fought in the Battle of Guillemont, a phase of the 1916 Battle of the Somme. At noon on 3 September 1916, his Battalion attacked Fallement Farm, just south of Guillemont. Arthur sustained gunshot wounds to his ankle during the assault. Two platoons of his company had already been victims to machine gun fire in their attempt to cross no man’s land. Arthur re-grouped his men and led a rush across the 350 yards of ground despite the machine-gun fire. Only a few got there, but his men took the position. On 3 September 1916, 80 men from the 14th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment lost their lives.

Arthur was wounded in both legs close to the enemy’s trench. Despite his wounds he crawled over the parapet and helped to clear the dug-outs, taking out a machine gun with a hand bomb. He was mentioned in despatches (MID) in the Times 4 January 1917 for his gallant action.

On 5 September 1916 he was admitted to No. 2 Stationery hospital at Abbeville. At first his wounds did not give cause for great concern and a telegram to his family stated his condition to be satisfactory. He was shipped back to England and admitted to the 4th London General Hospital at Denmark Hill on 15 September 1916 where his condition deteriorated. A telegram was sent on 5 October: Capt A Addenbrooke admitted here 15 Sept. Is on danger list. Relatives have been informed.

This was shortly followed by another telegram:

Reference previous wire. Capt A Addenbrooke died this evening. Relatives were present. Wounded. 4th London.

In his will Arthur was recorded as of the Platts, Kidderminster. Probate was granted to the Reverend William Gwynne Keyworth and Herbert Faulkner Lee, school master. Arthur left £2513 6s. 5d.

Arthur is buried in St. John The Baptist Churchyard, Kidderminster, in the same grave as his sister Dorothy, his father Edward Homfray and his mother Marianne. He is also remembered on the memorial outside St. Johns church, and on Kidderminster civic war memorial, as well as at Epsom College.

Arthur was awarded the 1915 Star, British War medal and the Victory medal.
As Arthur was unmarried and his father had died on 15 October 1915, his plaque and scroll were sent to his mother at The Platts, Kidderminster. His mother died on 27 April 1937 aged 87.

Much of the information about Arthur's adult life was taken from the Victoria College Jersey's Great War Book of Remembrance

Mr. Addenbrooke had come to the College in 1907 from Christ Church College, Oxford. He became Housemaster of Holman 1908-13 and of Forest 1913-14. He was very active in the Officer Training Corps, and took the Corps to camp in 1914, before volunteering himself. In the early months of the war Mr. Addenbrooke was given a captaincy in the 14th (1st Birmingham) Battalion of The Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He went out to France in November 1915, and was moved up to the front for the Somme offensive of 1916. It was on 3rd September, 1916, in the taking of Falfemont Farm, which had to be captured at any cost, that he sustained the wounds from which he died. Two platoons of his company had already been mown down in no man’s land when Addenbrooke, gathering the rest of his men together, led a rush across the 350 yards of distance continuously swept by machine-gun fire. Only a few got there, but the position was carried. Addenbrooke himself fell wounded in both legs close to the enemy's trench. In spite of a smashed ankle he managed to crawl over the parapet and lend a hand in clearing the dug-outs, himself landing a bomb fairly on a machine-gun which was causing trouble. For this gallantry he received mention in Sir Douglas Haig’s despatch published in The Times of 4th January, 1917. Arthur Addenbrooke is buried in Kidderminster (St John The Baptist) Churchyard, Worcestershire.

Mr. Addenbrooke at Corps Camp at Tidworth, 1914

Addison, Geoffrey

Birth Year: 1894

Entered Epsom College: 1904

House: P

Regiment: Trooper, Canadian West. Cavalry. Killed in action in World War

Rank: Pte

Addedson, Geoffrey

Unit: 5th Bn Canadian Inf

Died 27/09/16 aged 22

Buried Vimy Memorial, France

Reference: Alphabetical

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

ADDISON Geoffrey, Private 81003

5 Bn Canadian Infantry

Killed 26 September 1916 aged 22

Geoffrey was born on 18 Feb 1894 at Tenterden, Kent, (GRO ref: Mar 1894 Tenterden 2a 795) the son of William Bragg Addison and his wife Edith nee Rigg. His parents had married in 1893 (GRO ref: Mar 1893 Edmonton 3a 316).

In the 1901 census the family was living at 10 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon. William was recorded as a 37 year old medical practitioner. Edith was 42. Geoffrey was aged 7 and had a younger brother Richard aged 5. The family employed a
general servant and a nurse. Geoffrey entered Epsom College’s Lower School on 15 September 1904 starting in Form I of B House, later Holman House. His family was still living at 10 Parchmore Road. On Founder’s Day 1905 Geoffrey’s position in his form was 5th out of 9 pupils. An unremarkable career followed, usually ending up in the bottom third of his year. He continued into Forest House the Senior School and left in July 1909.

In 1911 Geoffrey and his parents, but not his brother, were still living at the same address with one servant. His aunt, Mary Rigg aged 54, was visiting the family.

At some point Geoffrey went to Canada and was working as a farmer when he enlisted at Winnipeg, Manitoba on 18 December 1914. He was 5ft 8ins tall, had a 35 inch chest with 1 ¾ in expansion. His complexion was dark, with brown eyes and black hair. He was unmarried and Church of England. At his medical board on 18 December 1914 he was found to be fit for general service in the army.

In September 1916 the Canadians made their debut in the Somme offensive. 5 Bn Canadian Infantry’s operational order was to take a stretch of the longest, German, Regina Trench near Courcelette in France. This involved taking Zollern and Hessian trenches first. At some point during this action Geoffrey became one of the 52 soldiers who were killed. A further 122 were reported missing, 291 were wounded and only 12 were able to remain on duty.

At the time of his death, Geoffrey’s parents were living in Church Street, St Mary’s, Scilly Isles. Probate was granted to his father on 17 November 1916 and his estate was valued at £68 15s 4d.

Geoffrey is remembered on the war memorial at St Mary the Virgin parish church, Hugh Town, Scilly Isles. This memorial is on the highest point on Vimy Ridge, about 8km north east of Arras in France and is in memory of all the Canadians who served their country in battle in the Great War.

Sources checked
Attestation papers (Canadian)
Canadian Great War Project, includes 5 Bn war diary
Census returns 1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Epsom Yellow Book (states Forest house not Propert)
Free BMD
Probate
Times Digital 10 Oct 1916.
TNA-not applicable. See Canadian War record
Updated 6 Aug 13

Adeney, Eric

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<td>1902</td>
<td>T/Lt. 1/6 Cyclist Bn., Suffolk Regt. 1916-19</td>
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Researcher:

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

The son of Dr Edwin L Adeney, Eric (ELA) was born 21 August 1888 in Tunbridge Wells, Kent (GRO Tonbridge 2a 638). His parents had married in Reigate Surrey, where Dr Edwin’s father had been a minister in the Congregational Church, where Edwin had lived for much of his early life. His wife Florence was a medical dispenser and in due course after Edwin had qualified at a London hospital they moved to general practice at Howard Lodge, Mount Sion, in Tunbridge Wells. A daughter, Armoreal, was born in 1893 and young Eric spent his early school years as a boarder at a private school, Hurstleigh, in Rusthall, TWells (Census 1901).

In 1902 when he was 14 his father entered his name for entry to Epsom College in September that year (EC Register 1902). However there is no record that he ever took up his place and it is possible that illness prevented him from doing so, something that was known to be the case on occasions (Alan Scadding, personal communication). Possibly his education continued privately as in due course he went up to St John’s College, Cambridge, where his name appears in the University lists from 1906/7, and in 1909 he received his BA degree. He became an actor and took lodgings at 5 Robert St., Adelphi, St. Martin in the Fields, (GRO Census 1911). His first performance on the London stage appears to have been at the Savoy Theatre where in the 1911-12 season he had a part in ‘Pain and Penalties: The Defence of Queen Caroline’ (Theatre Collection; Univ. Bristol) and in the following season 1912-13 he acted in three plays by Shakespeare at The Theatre Royal Drury Lane.

In September 1913 he left Liverpool for Boston and appears to have worked in the USA and Canada during 1914 and early 1915.
before returning to England in June 1915 to enlist in the army. He joined the Suffolk Regiment and in November 1915 was commissioned as a 2/Lt (LG 29272 p11453). He was posted to the 1/6 Cyclist Battalion of the Suffolk’s a Territorial Force stationed at Ipswich and later Saxmundham where it was attached to the 1st Mounted Division. In 1917 it became part of the 68th Division and in 1918 was attached to the 227th Brigade (Forces War Records). The 1/6 Cyclist Battalion remained in England throughout the war and its recruits were used mainly for reconnaissance work and message carrying. It was formed in 1908 and disbanded in 1918 presumably as the development of motorised transport progressed. ELA was promoted to T/Lt on 1 January 1917 and remained with the Suffolk Regiment until he relinquished his commission in Dec 1921 (LG 32538 p9866) to resume his acting career.

His father had died in May 1917 leaving his widow comfortably provided for and ELA seems to have obtained work in the theatre again without difficulty. In 1921 he appeared at the Theatre Royal, Bath, in ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ with amongst others Ralph Richardson and Donald Wolfit. From then on he appeared nearly always at the Old Vic and acted in all the great Shakespearean tragedies and many other plays during the 1920’s and 30’s alongside people such as Gielgud, Olivier and Sybil Thorndike. He maintained his contacts in the USA and Canada and was a teacher of drama. His last performance on the stage was in the 1942-43 season in King Lear at the Scala, London and shortly after the end of WW2 in December 1946 he made his last visit to Canada travelling back through the USA.

He spent the last years of his life either in London at his home in Kensington SW9 or at his house in Tintagel in Cornwall where he died in 1953 age 65 (GRO Camelford 7a 23). He never married.

Sources:
GRO
Ancestry
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Mocavo: Cambridge University Lists 1906 – 1909
Theatre Collection; University of Bristol.
London Gazette (LG)
The Long, Long Trail. (LLT)

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Adeney, Eric, s. of dr. E. L. Adeney of Tunbridge Wells, b. 1888, F., l. 1903, St. John’s Coll. Camb, B.A., actor, T/Lt. 1/6 Cyclist Bn., Suffolk Regt. 1915-19; in Dalyell Road, S.W. 9

Ainger, Col. Geoffrey Dawson

GRO
Ancestry
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Mocavo: Cambridge University Lists 1906 – 1909
Theatre Collection; University of Bristol.
London Gazette (LG)
The Long, Long Trail. (LLT)

Col. Geoffrey Dawson Ainger, M.C.

1893 - 1952

Geoffrey Dawson Ainger, (GDA) born 2 October 1893 (GRO Croydon 2a 219), was the second of four sons of William and Annie Dawson Ainger. Three brothers Douglas, Geoffrey and William went to Epsom College. Geoffrey was born and spent his early years in Croydon but in due course the family moved to Epsom. His father was a solicitor but by 1911 he appears to have moved into the civil service as a Civic Clerk in HM Office of Woods, Forest and Land Revenue and it is possible that two of his sons, Douglas and William, first became interested in rubber planting through their father’s work. William D Ainger later retired to Gloucestershire where he became a JP. He died in 1935.

In May 1904 GDA’s father, then living at Erm House, Worple Rd., Epsom, sent him to Epsom College. According to the original EC Register he entered Forest House and was a home boarder starting in Form 1. The following year he came 4th of 18 in class in the Lower School 3rd Form moving steadily up the school in the following years always being placed in the upper quarter of the class at the end of the year. He left the College in December 1909 from the Modern Fifth form.

The 1911 Census shows him aged 17 working as a Colonial Government Clerk living with the family at Alton in Links Road, Epsom. He may have found the life of a civil servant somewhat dull and he quickly joined the army.

He joined the 5th Battalion of the London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade) as a private soldier (No. 9245), part of the British Expeditionary Force, at the beginning of the war, although he may have been a member of the Territorial Army for some years
before. He landed at Le Havre in France on 4 November 1914 just after the battle of Messines. The 5th Battalion of the London Regiment became part of the 11th Brigade of the 4th Division at that time and GDA would have taken part in the battle of Neuve Chapelle in March 1915 in the Artois salient. However on 3rd April, just before the second battle of Ypres, he was wounded by a gunshot wound to the temple and spent 5 days in hospital before being discharged to a convalescent depot. His hospital note recorded that he had served for 4 years and had been in the field for 5 months (forces War Records MH 106/891). It would seem that he was selected for a commission around that time and may have returned to England for officer training being promoted to T/2nd Lt in the King’s Royal Rifle Corps on 16 September 1915 (Medal Roll Index). Within a year he became a T/Captain (LG Apr 1916 29558 p 4196), serving on the staff in headquarters of the 122nd Infantry Brigade where he remained throughout the war. On 3rd May 1916 the brigade landed in France at Havre and then entrained, as the Brigade war diary puts it, for Belgium arriving on the 5th at Outtersteene. With their HQ established at Bailleul on 9th May they were in action almost immediately and on 27th May Capt. Ainger, 18th KRRC, took over as Brigade Intelligence Officer. He returned to the general list on 14 August 1916 and in November transferred from the KRRC to the King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (LG 3 Nov 1916 p 10643) remaining with HQ 122 Brigade. The brigade spent the next year engaged in the Ploegsteert/Ypres area until on the 30th July 1917 the diary records they were moved to rest billets and “were glad of rest”.

However ‘rest’ seems to have been little more than a short interlude out of the front line trenches and they were soon back in action. GDA, temporarily in the position of Acting Brigade Major, was much involved in the planning and implementation of a major attack on enemy lines at Hazebroek which took place during the period 24th July and 13th August 1917 (TNA WO 95/2635/3 KRRC war diary).

In the King’s Birthday Honours in 1917 a considerable number of awards for gallantry were recorded. As was the custom when awards were made on the King’s birthday a general citation rather than an individual one was made “for distinguished service in the field” and 2nd Lt (T/Capt) Geoffrey Dawson Ainger was awarded the Military Cross (LG 4 Jun 1917 13099 p 1068). This was recorded in the war diary of 122 Infantry Brigade Headquarters on the 6th June as “award of the Military Cross to Staff Captain GD Ainger”, the rank he was holding at Brigade HQ. On June 21st along with the Brigadier General he went on leave to England for a deserved rest.

In November 1917 the 41st Division, of which 122 Brigade was part, was transferred to Italy. The move was carried out by train and by 18 November all units had concentrated north west of Mantua. The Division took over a sector of front line behind the River Piave, north west of Treviso, between 30 November and 2nd December. In December 1917 GDA was promoted to lieutenant although he still held the rank of T/Capt. on the staff. On 28 February 1918 the Division concentrated in Campo San Piero, preparatory to returning to France a move which was completed by 9 March when it arrived at Doullens and Mondicourt back in Flanders (The Long, Long Trail).

The 122 Brigade entrained for the front eventually arriving at Savoy Camp west of Bien-Villers-Les Bapaume. In April 1918 now under a new commander, Brigadier General Willan, it moved south of Paschendaele and on 11 April orders to take up position in the line SE and S of Ypres were issued from HQ signed by GDA as acting Brigade Major. For the rest of the war they were involved in heavy fighting in the vicinity losing many officers and men in those last few months particularly in the battle for Kemmel and around Vierstraat where they took over from the 27th American Division in the middle of a bloody encounter. Finally on November 11th the signal they must have been waiting for arrived.

“Wire from Division received at 0908 stating that hostilities would cease at 1100 and that the line then reached would be held, the troops standing by. No intercourse of any description to be held with the enemy.”

Clearly the authorities were worried about civil insurrection and in January the 41st Division, now known as the 1st London Division (late 41st Division) received orders to move into Germany to the Cologne bridgehead, in the occupied territory of Southern Germany. However GDA it seems had left France on 21 September 1918 (LG 30946 p11955) and returned to England to be seconded to HQ Northern Command as a T/Capt. In February 1920 he was restored to the establishment of the KOYLI from HQ remaining in the army as a regular officer. He was awarded the 1914 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal in addition to his Military Cross.

The 1914 Star awarded to GDA is of particular interest in that it was awarded with ‘Clasp and Roses’ (Medal Roll index). With one exception the Army did not award clasps to its WW1 medals. The exception was the 1914 Star for those who served “under the close fire of the enemy” before midnight of the 22-23 November 1914. GDA disembarked in France on 4 Nov 1914 and was involved in action immediately. The fact that he had been under fire before the 22nd November had to be verified by the commanding officer at the time, as it was in his case. The clasp was sewn to the ribbon of the medal and the rose was attached to the 1914 star ribbon when ribbons were worn alone. The clasp has the dates “5th Aug.-22nd Nov 1914” on it. Those awarded the 1914 star with clasp and roses were later nicknamed “The Old Contemptibles” following a comment by the Kaiser at the time about the BEF being “a contemptible little army”, a comment he no doubt regretted in later years (see sources below).

On 20 November 1920 GDA married Beatrice M Broadhurst in the Parish Church, Ewell, his occupation being given as that of a Lieutenant in the 2nd KOYLI residing at the time in The Hutments, Plymouth (GRO Epsom 2a 45). They had a daughter Lola Beatrice who was born in September 1922. In 1924 his promotion to Lieutenant from 2/Lt was backdated to 18 July 1916 for the purposes of seniority and in 1927 he was promoted to Captain (LG 33273 p3056). In January 1934 he took up the post of adjutant of the 5th KOYLI TA battalion a position he held until Sept 1936 (LG 34327 p6215) having been promoted to Major in April of that year (LG 34274 p2453). He then appears to have gone to Gibraltar in September 1936, he and his wife returning to
England for a short visit in June 1937 going back to Gibraltar in July. He almost certainly returned to England on the outbreak of WW2 serving as an acting Lt/Col in the TA from 15 June 1940 until he became T/Lt/Col on 15 Sept 1940 (Army List 1942). He served throughout the war and eventually retired on the grounds of age in 1947 with the rank of Colonel (LG 37910 p1323). He died age 59 in St Richards Hospital, Chichester on 31 December 1952 (GRO Chichester Sh 730) his wife surviving him until she died age 92 in Ealing in 1984.

Sources:
Ancestry
London Gazette (LG)
GRO
Epsom College – yellow books.
TNA – War Diaries
Army List 1942
The Long, Long Trail
Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Ainger, Douglas Slade

Douglas Slade Ainger (DSA) was born on the 18 Sep 1890 (GRO 4th qtr Croydon 2a p 203) the eldest of 4 sons of William and Annie Dawson Ainger. He took his mother’s maiden name as his second given name and was baptised at St Peter’s Croydon on the 9th November 1890. In the 1891 census he is found with his mother at Paignton in Devon at his grandfather’s house where they were no doubt on holiday. In due course the family moved to Epsom living in Links Rd. His father was described as a solicitor in the 1901 Census but by 1911 he appears to have moved into the civil service as a Civic Clerk in HM Office of Woods, Forest and Land Revenue. It is possible that two of his sons first became interested in rubber planting through their father’s work. William and Annie Ainger had four sons three of whom went to Epsom College. William D. Ainger retired to Gloucestershire where he became a JP. He died in 1935.

DSA went to the College as a home boarder in 1904 entering the Lower School in form Lower III under the supervision of Mr Neale. He showed average ability as he rose through the forms over the next four years, and when he left in the summer of 1908 he was 10th of 20 boys in Modern Fifth form.

In July 1908 DSA left the College and worked for a while as a bank clerk (Census 1911). However it is clear he did not intend to make banking his career and on 25 April 1913 when he was 26 he set off alone for the Straits Settlements via Singapore on a Japanese ship, the Kaga Maru, owned by the Nippon Yusen Line. The Straits Settlements lay along the west coast of the Malayan peninsula bounded by the Straits of Malacca on the seaward side and jungle to the east. In 1870 the Settlements consisted of two small outposts at Malacca and Penang but gradually British influence increased and Kuala Lumpur, inland from the small town of Klang on the coast, developed into a substantial town. In 1877 the British resident there, Hugh Low a keen horticulturist, had planted in the grounds of the Residency a few rubber tree seeds from South America, which he had obtained from Kew. They had flourished and by the early years of the 20th century a thriving rubber industry, which had grown up in what had become in 1895 the Federal Malay States, was attracting men of enterprise from far afield. One of these was Douglas Ainger who settled in the state of Selangor between Kuala Lumpur and Penang.

He must have returned to England after a year as on 20th Dec 1915 he again travelled from England to the Straits this time on the Miyazaki Maru (Ancestry). The choice of these Japanese vessels must have given him cause for reflection when he became embroiled in WW2 a quarter of a century later.

He appears to have remained in the Far East during WW1 although he may have returned at some time between 1915 and 1921 to marry as on 15 March 1921 he arrived at Liverpool from Singapore with his wife Violet Marjorie nee Cross. Violet Cross had been born in London in 1894 in Hammersmith and as no record of a marriage in England can be found between 1915 and 1921 then it is possible the marriage was in the Straits Settlements.
In 1921 it is possible that she travelled to the Straits during the war and they married there. Both she and DSA returned to Rangoon via Suez on 21 Sept 1921 giving their address in London as 97 Addison Rd. W14 which may have been the address of her unmarried older sister as both she and DSA stayed there on a number of occasions on their visits to England during the next 20 years.

DSA worked as a rubber planter on the Segambut Estate, Sentul near Kuala Lumpur and in 1921 he joined the Federated Malay States Volunteer Force (FMSVF). The Volunteer Forces were similar in concept to the British Territorial Army, although the Officers held a Governor's Commission instead of the King's Commission. There was an armoured car regiment within the organisation to which DSA belonged. The men were recruited from all walks of life, not necessarily being Europeans and the total number of men in the Force at its height was 5,200. By the beginning of WW2 DSA held the rank of Lt/Col and had been decorated with the Efficiency Decoration (ED) in the Coronation Honours List an award comparable to the Territorial Decoration (TD) in England.

In 1924 Violet Ainger travelled on her own to London from Singapore with their infant son Charles Michael aged nine months but sadly the child died when a year old in Somerset (GRO 1stqtr.1925 Ashbridge Sd 607). No doubt the little boy and his mother were staying with his grandfather when he died. No details of other children of the marriage have been found. Violet Ainger returned to Malaya on 2 January 1926 disembarking at Penang which was the nearest port to their home.

In 1931 DSA was granted a licence to fly by the Kuala Lumpur Flying Club qualifying in a Gipsy Moth DH 60 fitted with a 60/100 HP motor. He would have found it useful to tour the rubber plantations. Over the next 15 years both he and his wife sailed to and fro between the Federation of Malay States and England although on each occasion they travelled alone.

On 14 Sept 1940 DSA left Liverpool on the Blue Funnel ship ‘Anchises’ for Singapore. During the next few years his life would be changed for ever. His wife Violet was already in Malaya and the war in Europe had begun. The Japanese threat hung over the Far East and the British residents in Malaya must have regarded the future with great apprehension. As a Lt/Col in the FMSVF DSA would have been involved in the preparations to repel any invasion of the Peninsular. By the end of the year the situation was dire and when on the 10th December the two capital ships Prince of Wales and Repulse were sunk within an hour of each other following Admiral Phillips ill-conceived foray up the east coast to the north of Singapore it was clear it would only be a matter of time before the Japanese invaders moved south from their toehold at Kota Baharu where they had landed on the 7th December within hours of their assault on Pearl Harbour.

As the invaders moved down the Peninsula the FMSVF based on Penang Island fought in support of 3rd Indian Corps defending the town of Kroh. Gradually however the defenders were forced south to Singapore and together with many of the wives and families who did not want to leave their husbands but were swept up in the retreat they found themselves trapped in the port. Amongst them was DSA and almost certainly his wife, who escaped to Bombay possibly on the Felix Roussel one of the last ships to leave for Bombay before Singapore surrendered on the 15th February. The Felix Roussel along with the Devonshire and City of Canterbury sailed from Singapore for Bombay on the evening of February 8th 1942. She carried at least 1,100 evacuated women and children.

RAF personnel and some survivors from the Prince of Wales & Repulse, passing through the Sunda Strait on February 8th/9th under escort. Once clear of the strait the escort left for other duties (COFEPOW website). Eventually she arrived in Bombay where shortly afterwards she embarked on the P&O liner Strathmore which left Bombay for Liverpool via Freetown South Africa on 20 March 1942 (Ancestry). After repairs to the engines which broke down off Freetown she eventually arrived at Liverpool on 22 April 1942 having sailed north of Ireland no doubt to avoid possible U-boats lurking in the Western Approaches. It is interesting to see on the Strathmore’s manifest that all other passengers on the page where Violet Ainger’s name appears were women, some accompanied by small children.

For DSA events were far less satisfactory. At 6.10 pm in the evening of 15 February 1942 Lieutenant General Percival signed the surrender document which handed over Singapore to the Japanese. The British troops, who were now prisoners of war, were ordered to march to the east of the city where barracks and a new prison had been built at Changi and for the next three and a half years they remained incarcerated there to be subjected by their captors to a savage form of depraved barbarism which has become a byword for brutality almost unsurpassed in human history.

DSA left a record of his years in captivity and I am grateful to Rachel Rowe, Smuts Librarian for S. Asian & Commonwealth Studies at Cambridge University for providing me with a copy of this remarkable transcript. The document was written in the camp during the time he was in captivity and a caveat, clearly written after his liberation, needs to be observed by the reader and I quote it here: “As we were always afraid of the ‘Kempi’ or Japanese Gestapo swooping down on us unexpectedly, I wrote nothing at all derogatory about the I.J.A. ‘(Imperial Japanese Army). Had I done so there would have been very unpleasant consequences”. In the 57 page document he describes the everyday existence of those who were prisoners of war in Singapore from the 15 February 1942 until liberation on the 15 August 1945 describing how the human spirit can rise above adversity in the presence of unspeakable horror. They devised many activities to keep themselves and the troops under their supervision occupied one of which involved running language courses. To his surprise DSA found himself being taught by a man called Roualle “the son of the schoolmaster who taught (or rather tried to) teach me French at Epsom”. [Auguste Roualle, housemaster of Forest 1915-1929]. In the penultimate page (written in October 1945 probably on his way home to England) he gives vent momentarily to his feelings about his captors: “Throughout this narrative I have been careful not to mention anything that might be taken as anti-Japanese and I do not propose to harrow you now with tales of the unspeakable horrors
and atrocities committed by these yellow beasts. But I must tell you that the best friends we prisoners of war have had are the Chinese and Eurasian communities. They have risked their lives in hundreds of ways during the past 3½ years to make our lives easier for us, and we owe them a debt it will be quite impossible to repay. During the first few weeks following the capitulation of Singapore 20,000 Chinese were taken out and shot in cold blood – our men buried the bodies. ----------- Nothing, I repeat NOTHING you may of heard of Japanese atrocities comes anywhere near the truth”.

Somehow DSA survived and was finally released on 11 September 1945 (Liberation Questionnaire 1945). In July 1946 the London Gazette carried a list of those who were to be Mentioned in Despatches:

“The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in Malaya in 1942. Lt Col DS Ainger FMSVF.” (LG 30 Jul 1946 issue 37671 p 3921).

He returned to England after release from Changi and stayed with friends or family in Bristol but set off alone again for Malaya from Southampton in August 1946. Unfortunately his marriage did not survive the ravages of war and on 9 Nov 1947 The Straits Times reported that he and his wife had divorced. In 1950 he married a divorcee Christine Justham nee Cole, probably in Malaya, and in April of that year he and his second wife returned to England from Malaya for the last time to retire to Devon where his mother had been born. Sadly his second wife died in 1955 and in December of that year he married for the third time, this time in Torbay, a widow Kathleen Hunstone. DSA died in Torbay in Dec 1976 (GRO vol 21 p 2174) aged 86 and his wife a month or so later aged 84 (GRO Torbay March 1977).

Douglas Slade Ainger

Sources:
Ancestry
GRO
London Gazette (LG)
Forces War Records
COFEPOW
TNA
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
EC Yellow Book
Centre for South Asian & Commonwealth Studies, University of Cambridge. ‘Diary of A Prisoner-of-War, Changi Camp, Singapore. Lt Col D.S. Ainger E.D.’

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Liberation Questionnaire, 1945
William Edward Ainger, (WEA) born 28 January 1895 (GRO Croydon 2a 254), was the third of four sons of William and Annie Dawson Ainger. Three brothers Douglas, Geoffrey and William went to Epsom College but the youngest, John, who served in the Royal Navy did not. Geoffrey was born and spent his early years in Croydon but in due course the family moved to Epsom. His father was a solicitor but by 1911 he had moved into the civil service as a Civic Clerk in HM Office of Woods, Forest and Land Revenue. Two of his sons, Douglas and William became rubber planters in The Malay Straits after the war and possibly first became interested in rubber planting through their father’s work. William D Ainger later retired to Gloucestershire where he became a JP. He died in 1935.

WEA’s father sent him to the College in May 1908. He attended as a house boarder and started in the upper third form where he seems to have struggled at first coming 23rd out of 25 at the end of the term. In 1909 he went up into the middle school and then in 1910 he was placed in Modern Middle Π where he came 18th of 22 in form. He left in July of that year.

After leaving the College he worked for a while as a clerk in the Canadian Bank of Commerce but in December 1914 he joined the 5th Battalion London Rifle Brigade as a rifleman. He remained on the Home Front until on 22 September 1915 he was sent to France to join the British Expeditionary Force. The battalion was part of the 56th (1st London) Division of the 3rd Army under General Sir Edmund Allenby who had taken over in October when its previous commander General Monro had been sent to investigate the disaster at Gallipoli. It was stationed in the region of Gommecourt and Hébuterne near the river Ancre a tributary of the Somme.

Some controversy exists regarding the precise date of the start of the Battle of the Somme. However it seems reasonable to regard it as the 24th June 1916 when the preliminary bombardment of the German trenches began. Wire cutting and small raiding parties were carried out and the allies released gas and smoke on a number of occasions. Unfortunately the preliminary bombardment was far less successful than expected and was to lead to the disaster which followed.

On the 1st July WEA, then a lance corporal, and his comrades in the infantry went ‘over the top’ at Hébuterne in what Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig later described as the subsidiary attack at Gommecourt. He wrote; “The subsidiary attack at Gommecourt also forced its way into the enemy positions, but there met with such vigorous opposition, that as soon as it was considered that the attack had fulfilled its object our troops were withdrawn” (Haig. Somme Despatch Dec. 1916). With 57,000 British casualties of which 20,000 were killed on that first day others have later described the British attack on the centre and left of the line including the 3rd Army diversionary attack at Gommecourt as a complete disaster.

WEA received a gunshot wound of the right thigh at Hébuterne and no doubt considered himself fortunate to have survived.
was rescued from the battlefield and on the 4th July was invalided home to England where he gradually recovered from his wound. Having done so he applied to be considered for a commission. A letter dated 30 March 1917 signed by the headmaster of Epsom College at that time, Walter Barton M.A., still exists in the military record (TNA WO 374/510) supporting his application in which Barton wrote to say “he had attained a standard of education suitable for commissioned rank”. A medical report carried out in June 1917, noted his history of injury, but passed him as fit for service. At that time he weighed 9 stone 13 lbs. and was recorded as being six feet tall. His relatively light weight might well have been a legacy of his injury and previous months in the trenches. On the 28 November 1917 he was commissioned as a 2/Lt in his former regiment (LG 13 Dec 1917 p13042).

On 1st February 1918 he returned to France for a second time. Again he was sent to the Somme front and served with the 2/6th Londins in the 58th Division. The Germans led by Ludendorff had made significant gains in this southern sector of the front and were threatening Amiens and even Paris. The strategic importance of protecting the channel ports was only too clear and if Amiens fell the British and French forces would have been split from each other. The front was stabilized at Villers-Bretonneux just east of Amiens where in the early morning of the 17th April 1918 the Germans launched a major gas attack the bombardment lasting for 3 hours. WEA was one of the 800 casualties from the 58th Division (Forces War Records).

After initial treatment in France for conjunctivitis and laryngitis, at first thought to be ‘slight’, it became clear that he was seriously affected. He left his unit on 18th April the day after the attack and then on 7th May embarked for England at Havre the cause of his return being recorded as ‘gassed’. After landing at Southampton he travelled to London and was admitted to the Prince of Wales’ Hospital for Officers, in Marylebone NW1. A month later he was discharged to an officer's convalescent home at Moretonhampstead in Devon his health being described as ‘practically recovered’ but he was not classified as fully recovered until he appeared in front of a medical board on 26th November 1918 by which time the war was over.

A certain amount of confusion seems to have occurred at the War Office regarding his status after the war. He applied to resign his commission and was ‘disembodied’ to use the somewhat unusual terminology in his war records on 25th March 1919. His father, W. Dawson Ainger, was therefore somewhat surprised to receive an enquiry from the War Office as to WEA’s whereabouts in October 1919. He replied on the side of the document he had received: ‘My son William Edward Ainger of the 5th London Regiment was demobilised in March last and is now in Malay’. Undaunted the officials at the War Office promoted him to lieutenant to take effect from 28th May 1919 (LG 21st Nov.1919 p 14269). He was finally recorded as having resigned his commission from the 14th July 1921 but was given permission to retain the rank of lieutenant (LG 13 July 1921 p 5625).

His eldest brother, Douglas, had established himself as a rubber planter in the Straits Settlements Malaya before the war. WEA clearly set off to join him as soon as he was released, as he thought, from his war duties in March 1919. He also became a rubber planter and travelled to and fro between England and the Malay Settlements during the inter war years. In 1939 he returned once more to marry the details being published in the Straits Times: “On March 21 at St John’s Church, Watford, William Edward 3rd son of the late WD Ainger JP and Mrs Ainger of Blaydon Somerset, to Gytha Mary elder daughter of the late Rev. AJ Riddle MA & Mrs Riddle of Watford” (GRO 1st qtr Watford 3a 1701). His bride had been born in Russia on the 12th February 1902 and in 1926-27 had studied at the University of London. Following their marriage they returned to Singapore.

The Japanese invasion of Malaya soon disrupted their lives. WEA served in the local defence force but it appears that he was treated by the Japanese as a civilian and he was imprisoned in the former jail at Changi in conditions possibly worse than those experienced by his brother Douglas in the military POW camp. In his Diary of Changi Camp Douglas Ainger describes how in March 1943 “quite out of the blue I was allowed to visit Bill at Changi jail. About 50 POW were given permission by the Japs to visit relatives interned in the jail, and I was put in charge of this party. We marched (without guards) the three miles to the jail where I had to interview the Jap authorities and go through certain formalities before we were allowed to meet our relations. I found Bill quite fit and cheerful and we had one hour together. Unfortunately we could not talk as freely as we wished as several Jap officers would stand close to us. Bill had received two letters from Gytha before Christmas and we had one hour together. Unfortunately we could not talk as freely as we wished as several Jap officers would stand close to us. Bill had received two letters from Gytha before Christmas and so I was able to glean a certain amount of home news from him. This break made a very pleasant break in the monotony of my existence”.

Gytha had left Singapore at the last moment on the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Japan the manifest being headed ‘Government evacuees from Singapore’. She travelled via Capetown arriving at Liverpool on the 19th March 1942 intending to stay with her mother in Watford. A month later the P&O liner Strathmore carrying her sister-in-law Marjorie Violet Ainger who had also travelled from Singapore, in her case via Bombay and S Africa, docked at Liverpool. The fact that the two wives, who were presumably well known to each other, travelled separately and by different routes and ships suggests that their departure from Singapore was fraught with difficulty and no doubt danger. Eventually in January 1943 news reached Douglas Ainger, WEA’s older brother, who was then a prisoner-of-war in Changi, that both his wife Marjorie and Gytha had reached England safely (Changi Diary).

WEA and his wife were reunited after the war and returned to Malaya. In February 1949 they both travelled to England from Malaya returning to Singapore a month later. In September 1951 they returned finally to England and settled in retirement in Somerset. WEA died in May 1985 in Weston-Super-Mare age 90 (GRO May 2o p1404) and his wife Gytha in November 1988 at Weston-Super-Mare age 84 (GRO Vol. 22: p1392).

Sources:
Ancestry
GRO
Brereton Aird, 1897 – 1974

One of three brothers, sons of Dr Thomas Wilson Aird M.D. and his wife Mary Roberts, Brereton Aird was born at ‘Tyneside’, Clarendon Road, Wallington in Surrey in July 1897 (GRO 2a 314) where his father was in medical practice. Whereas his elder brother, George Morland, and the younger, Ian Wilson, each stayed for 7 years at the College Brereton did not. In 1907 their mother died leaving the young boys to be brought up by their father but in 1909 he married Ada Frederica Walmisley who lived in Epsom and who eventually out-lived him.

Brereton spent a very short time at Epsom College. His father entered him in September 1908 and he was placed in Holman House in the Lower School. However it seems he did not complete his first year as he left at the end of the Lent term in 1909. He no doubt completed his schooling elsewhere and at the age of 19 joined the army.

On 19th July 1915 he answered the call and enlisted for general service in the army at Croydon. He was unusually small at just under 5 feet 3 inches in height and weighed only 7½ stone. He gave his occupation as a student. Despite his small size the army, with its unerring instinct for making bizarre decisions, sent him to join the Machine Gun Corps (MGC) (Heavy Battery) at the Motor Machine Gun Training Centre, Bisley, where he reported for duty on 20th July (WO 363). In December 1915 he was transferred to the Artillery Depot as a gunner where he appears to have remained until 21st September 1916 when he embarked at Folkstone for Boulogne. He duly joined the MGC Base Depot at Camiers a week later and then shortly after that, possibly due to unusual perspicacity on the part of his commanding officer who may have realised that he was struggling in the MGC Heavy Brigade, was sent into the field to join the advance GHQ Tanks becoming a member of the embryo Tank Corps. His regimental number of 201698 which he had been given in the MGC was then changed to 201545. He remained in hospital for a month and fortunately survived before being moved to the military convalescent hospital at Eastbourne. He was eventually discharged fit to re-join his unit at the beginning of January 1918.

He remained with the Tank Corps in the field until October 1917 when it was decided to transfer him to HQ Royal Flying Corps for admission to the Officer Cadet Unit presumably to be trained as a pilot. A fortnight later he was moved to the home establishment and posted to 15 Personnel Supply Park pending transfer to cadet training in the RFC. However on 8th November 1917 Cadet Aird of the Tanks, attached to the RFC, was admitted to hospital in Hastings suffering from influenza thus becoming one of the first victims of the 1918 pandemic which was to lead to more deaths worldwide than occurred throughout the hostilities of WW1. He remained in hospital for a month and fortunately survived before being moved to the military convalescent hospital at Eastbourne. He was eventually discharged fit to re-join his unit at the beginning of January 1918.

It seems that the army were not sure where to send Private Aird B after his spell in hospital and had probably forgotten why they had sent him back to England in the first place. By April he was at the Tank Corps Depot at Wareham in ‘A’ Company where he remained for much of the year until in October he moved to another Tank Corps depot in Swangrove. Following the Armistice he remained there until January when he attended No 1 Dispersal Unit at Crystal Palace and was sent on 28 days leave before demobilisation and transfer to the Army Reserve on 12th February 1919. He received the British War Medal and Victory Medal in due course.

After the war in November 1919 he set off to work as a cable operator in South America. At various times he lived in Lisbon,
Madeira and Uruguay. After his marriage in 1933 in London to Irene May Wilkinson they appear to have settled in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil where he worked for the Western Telegraph Co. Ltd. They travelled to and fro on many occasions between South America and England until 1955 when, now retired, he and his wife returned to England to live in Hove. They spent the last 20 years of their lives together in Sussex until his death in 1974 (GRO 5h 337). His wife died 2 years later in Lewes. There were no children of the marriage.

Sources:
Epsom College Yellow Books
Ancestry
WO 363 British Army Service Records 1914-1920
Medal Roll Index
General Registry Office (GRO)
Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Aird, Brereton, brother of G. M. A. (1906), b. 1897, L.S. and P., l. 1909, electrical engineer, Gunner M.G.C. 1914-18; 201 Church Road, Hove

Captain Bruce Bairnsfather “Fragments from France”

(As published in ‘The Bystander’ during the Great War)

Aird, George Morland

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: Lt. Suffolk Regt. (S.R.) 1914-18
House: HMM? □
Rank
Researcher:


Alderson, The Rev. Alexander George Jermyn

Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1892
Regiment: Machine Gun Corps
House: F
HMM? □
Rank 2nd Lt.

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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Branksome Park All Saints Churchyard West, Bournemouth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
George, as he was known, was born in 1 June 1880 in the Fulham registration district, (GRO ref: Sept 1880 Fulham 1a 201) the son of Dr Frederick Henry Alderson and his wife Eliza (nee Willett ) of Hammersmith. His parents married in Brixton in 1866. (See Register)

In the 1881 census the family was living at 38 Glenthorn Road, Hammersmith. George’s father was a 52 year old doctor. His mother was aged 46. George was 10 months old and had 4 older siblings living at home: Alice aged 13, Frederick 12, Percy 4, and Evelyne 2. The family also employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid.

In the 1891 census the family was still living at 38 Glenthorn Road, Hammersmith. George’s father was a 52 year old general practitioner. His mother was aged 46. George Alexander (stet) aged 19 was at home with his two sisters, Alice Eliza, 23, who was a teacher, and Evelyne aged 12. A medical student, Harry Guy Perring, described as Dr Alderson’s “Ward” and 2 servants also lived with the family.

On 15 Sept 1892 George started in the Lower Ivth at Epsom College, in Forest House where he later became a School prefect. At the time of enrolling at the school, George’s father gave his address as Southerton House in Hammersmith. George was confirmed in the College chapel on 1 Mar 1895. He was a most able pupil academically: he came 2nd in his year in 1893, and won a Junior Scholarship in 1894. The following year he came 6th out of 10 pupils on the classical side of studies and won a form prize. In 1896, 1897 and 1898 he came second in his year and in 1899 he was top. He excelled at mathematics, gaining distinction in his Higher Certificate and receiving the Martin Prize in 1899 for being the best mathematician of the year. He left Epsom in July 1899, having won the Forest Exhibition (£50pa for three years) for mathematics to Jesus College Oxford.

By 1901 the family had moved to Princess Road, Branksome in Dorset and had called their house Glenthorne. Frederick, described as a “medical man” was 62, Eliza was 56, Alice 33, Evelyne 22 and George (stet) was 20. No occupation was recorded, but he would have been a student at Oxford University. The family had just one general servant.

He achieved a second class honours in the Oxford Mathematics School in 1903. He rowed in the college boat and won an “oar” in the Eights week in 1903.

After Oxford, George took holy orders in the Scottish Episcopal Church and was ordained by the Bishop of Southwark in 1904. Initially he was a master at Glenalmond School in Perth in Scotland from 1907-08. He was an assistant master at St Winifred’s School, Kenley and assistant curate at St John’s Church, Caterham in Surrey. By 1911 he was a Clerk in Holy Orders at Bradfield College, Reading living at the school in Bridge House. He later moved to Sherborne School in Dorset. He was well regarded at Sherborne and helped with Abbey services at various times.

He joined up from Sherborne School’s contingent Officers Corps and obtained a commission in the Duke of Cornwall’s Light Infantry in September 1915. He was promoted to temporary captain on responding to a call for volunteers for the Machine Gun Corps (MGC) he reverted to his permanent rank.

He was killed accidentally on 19 October 1916 at Harrowby Camp, Grantham, Lincolnshire, aged 36 during bombing practice. At the time of his death, his widowed mother was living at Aboukir House, Poole Road, West Bournemouth, Dorset. He was buried on 23 October 1916 at Branksome Park All Saints Churchyard West, 6.6, Bournemouth, Dorset. (See Register) Sherborne’s headmaster wrote “I spoke of his joining the Army in my last report; here I need only say that he is a very great loss to our community, in the Chapel in which his deep sincerity and manly sympathy had made their mark and gave promise of growing influence for good, in the Classroom where his mathematical teaching was most conscientious and thorough, and in his personal relations with his colleagues and with individual boys.”

He is also remembered on a wooden wall plaque at St Aldhelm’s Church, Branksome which bears the inscription “Remember before God’s throne these men of Branksome who died for you and for their country 1914 – 1918”.

Probate was granted in London on 22 December 1916 to his brothers Frederick Herbert Alderson, of independent means, and Percy Francis Alderson, staff surgeon Royal Navy. His effects came to £2381 16s 2d. He bequeathed his property to his mother and the cash in hand to be divided between his two brothers and sisters Alice and Evelyne. The residue of his property was to go to his sister Evelyne. His brother had to pay his outstanding mess bill of £1 2s 8d.

Sources
Census 1881,1891,1901,1911
EC register
EC Minutes 1899
Branksome burial register
Free BMD
Probate
Times Obituary 24 Oct 1916
TNA file WO 374/705
Work in Progress. TNA file not viewed.
Updated 22 Nov 13
Marriage entry for Alexander Alderson's parents in St. Matthew's Brixton Parish Register

Entry from Branksome Park church burial register
Aldworth, Cedric Henry John

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: L/Lt. Hants Regt. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations: M.C., T.D.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Alexander, Alec Fortescue

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: Pte London Scottish. Killed in action 1914

Unit: 1/14 Bn, London Regt

Died: 01/11/14 aged 22
Buried: Ypres Menin Gate Mem, Belgium
Reference: Panel 54

Decorations: M.M.A.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

ALEXANDER Alec Fortescue, Pte 3066
1/4th Bn London Regt (London Scottish)
Killed 1 Nov 1914

Alec was born 25 Nov 1892, (GRO ref: Mar 1893 Totnes 5b 149) the son of a Paignton doctor, James Alexander and his wife Mabel nee Pridham. His parents had married at St Jude’s Church, Kensington on 21 August 1883.

In 1891 the family was living at numbers 1 and 2 Bishop’s Place, Paignton. 43 year old James had been born in Ireland and was working as a medical practitioner. His wife, Mabel, was 29. They had two children, Mabel Gladys aged 7 and Charles aged 6, and employed a nurse and a house come parlour-maid to help with the family. Tragedy hit the family shortly after the census when their daughter died.

By 1901 census the family had moved to a house called Mayhurst at the end of Town Hall Terrace in Paignton. Alec’s father was still working as a medical practitioner. 8 year old Alec had two siblings at home: Mabel Cameron aged 5, named after her mother and deceased sister, and Edward L aged 4. The family employed 4 servants including a cook and a nurse. Alec’s mother was visiting a couple in Little Hempston in Devon on the night of the census.

Alec’s father died in Paignton 2 April 1905 after a severe illness.

Alec and his brother Edward both attended Epsom College. Alec entered Forest House on 20 Sept 1906. At the time, his mother...
was living at Tilt Cove, Paignton. (In the 1911 census she was shown as the wife of Arthur William Davis, living in Bideford. I have been unable to trace the date of marriage.) Although not outstanding academically, Alec had a flair for maths and won the Middle School Maths prize in 1907 and 1908. In 1909 he came 13th out of 18 pupils in his year climbing the following year to 10th place out of 22. He became head boy of his house in 1910.

He left the Modern Sixth form in 1911 having attained 8th position out of 11 pupils in Division B. Nevertheless he obtained a scholarship to the London Hospital but after a year there he felt that medicine was not for him. Instead he entered Sir Herbert Tree’s Dramatic School where he showed considerable promise as an actor.

He had previously joined the London Scottish, a Territorial regiment and on the outbreak of war volunteered for service at the front. He went to France with the British Expeditionary Force but was killed on 1 November 1914. I have found no specific details of how he died but the London Scottish were involved in the withdrawal from Ypres 28 October to 1 Nov. His body was not recovered and he is remembered on Menin Gate Ypres Panel 54.

His obituary by CAY in the Epsomian 1914 described him as “A devoted son and brother, he concealed under a courteous and unassuming exterior a great strength of will but he sacrificed everything at his country’s call.” His was awarded the 1914 star, the British and Victory medals.

Sources
Census Returns 1881,1891,1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian
EpCol Register
Free BMD
Soldiers died

Updated 6 Aug 2013

Alexander, Douglas Reid

Birth Year: 1891 Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


EO Doctors

DOUGLAS Reid ALEXANDER (1891-1951). M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.M [Epsom College 1902-1909. prefect. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr R. R. Alexander, Superintendent of Hanwell Asylum, Greater London. He received his medical education at St Mary’s Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. and was awarded the Military Cross.

Alford, Cyril Wolrige

Birth Year: 1891 Entered Epsom College: 1884
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1917-18


Allcock, Owen Philip

Birth Year: 1891 Entered Epsom College: 1909


Allcock, Owen Philip, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1909-1913. Rugby XV] was the son of A. J. Allcock, bank manager, of Belmont, Surrey. He received his medical education at St Mary’s Hospital, and went into general practice in Folkestone, Kent. During the First World War he served as a Lieutenant in the Durham Light Infantry and later as a Flying Officer in the R.F.C. (1914-1918).

Allen, Capt Percival Theophilus

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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Regiment: Capt. E. Yorks Regt.

Researcher:

Allen, Capt. Percival Theophilus, formerly E. Yorks Regt., s. of dr. W. H. Allen of Derby, b. 1897, L.S. and C., l. 1914 for R.M.C.; Battledene, Braishfield, Hants

Anderson, Lt.-Col. Frederick Jasper

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1898</td>
<td></td>
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<td>C.I.E., M.C.</td>
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Regiment: Lt.-Col. I.M.S.

Researcher:


“He had two ruling passions in life - surgery and racing. For years he owned and raced a string of horses in Calcutta with considerable success.”


Frederick Jasper Anderson (1886-1957) [Epsom College 1898-1901] was the son of Dr. A. J. Anderson of Blackpool, Lancashire. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew's Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1912. In the same year he passed high into the Indian Medical Service. During the First World War he saw service in France, Belgium, Mesopotamia and Egypt. He was twice mentioned in despatches, and was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in action. He remained on semi-active service until 1921 when he returned to England and obtained the F.R.C.S. in 1922. In 1923 he was selected for civil employment in the Madras Presidency and held various appointments there until 1928, when he was appointed Principal and Professor of Surgery at Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam. In 1934 he was transferred to Calcutta as Professor of Surgery, a post that he held until retirement in 1941, when he was immediately re-employed in the same capacity for the duration of the Second World War. He was awarded the C.I.E. in 1939. In his obituary it was written that Jasper Anderson: "combined boldness and dexterity as an operator with great surgical wisdom and judgement – a combination that brought him a reputation that was far from local, and patients from all over India. He was a good teacher who preferred the bedside and the operating theatre to the lecture-room for this purpose, and many of the leading Bengal
surgeons received their first impetus and encouragement from him.... His brusque, abrupt manner concealed, from those who knew him slightly or whom he considered bogus, an essential kindliness which his patients and his students soon discovered. He did not suffer fools gladly, and he hated any form of pose.”

Ardagh, Frederick Day

<table>
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<th>Rank</th>
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<td>1893</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>T/Maj. Queen’s (R.W.S.) Regt att M.G.C. 1917-18</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>HMM? □</td>
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Frederick Day Ardagh 1893 - 1939

Frederick Day Ardagh (FDA) was born in 1893 in Haslemere in Surrey the third child of William Stafford Ambrose Ardagh and his wife Christiana Frances Day. They had 4 sons, Robert, Frederick, Leslie and Osmond all of whom went to Epsom College and a daughter, Ruth. Both William and his wife had been born in Ireland where he qualified in medicine. They had married in Dublin in 1887 and in due course came to England where William practised as a GP surgeon in Haslemere (GRO census 1911) and where he died in 1944.

In 1907 FDA’s father, who then lived in Court Hill Lodge, Haslemere in Surrey, sent him to Epsom College. He was placed in Wilson House and started in the Middle Fourth form where he came 5th of 16 in class at the end of the year. He did well at school winning the prize in 1909 and passing the Lower Certificate of education that year from what was termed the Shell form under the tutelage of the Rev WA Thomas. In 1910 in the lower 5th he was 8th of 20 boys and in July he passed the School Certificate examination. The following year in the upper fifth on the classical side he passed the Higher Certificate examination. He was by now a sub-prefect and was an active participant in the Cadet Corps being awarded proxime accessit for Certificate ‘A’ in 111. He left in July1912 for Keble College Oxford to study forestry (BA Oxon).

However his studies would have been interrupted by the war. On 25 January 1913 the following notice appeared in the London Gazette (Issue 28689 p 1059) “5th Battalion, The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment); Frederick Day Ardagh (late Cadet Officer, Epsom College Contingent, Junior Division, Officer’s Training Corps) to be Second Lieutenant.” On 5 March 1915 he was promoted in the same regiment to 7/Lieutenant and on 6 Dec 1916 this temporary post was upgraded to substantive (LG Issue 113 P 12204).

The Queen’s, (Royal West Surrey Regt.) was the oldest English line Infantry Regiment in the British Army, first raised in 1661 as The Earl of Peterborough’s Regiment of Foot, by Henry Mordaunt 2nd Earl of Peterborough. In WW1 it raised 28 Battalions and was awarded 74 Battle Honours and 4 Victoria Crosses, losing 8,000 men during the course of the First World War (Forces War Records WW1).

The 5th Battalion of the Queen’s was a Territorial unit formed in August 1914 in Guildford as part of the Surrey Brigade, Home Counties Division. They moved to Maidstone and then Canterbury and then On 29 October 1914 they embarked for India sailing from Southampton to arrive in Bombay on 2 December 1914 where they joined the Lucknow Brigade of the 8th (Lucknow) Division. This was transferred in April 1915 to the Allahabad Brigade in the same Division remaining there until December 1915 when it moved again to the 12th Brigade in the 12th Indian Division. In May 1916 it transferred once more to the 15th Indian Division. The regiment finally ended the war in Mesopotamia, near Hilla south of Baghdad on 31 Oct 1918.

(FDA) appears to have remained with the Queen’s 5th battalion fighting the Turks in Mesopotamia until January 1917 when he was seconded to the Machine Gun Corps (LG Issue 30181 p 7061). He was promoted to Captain in June 1917 although this was later brought forward to 8 April 1917 in a subsequent issue of the LG.

When hostilities began in 1914 it soon became clear to the military authorities that machine guns were to play a crucial role in battle but to be effective they needed to be used by specially trained personnel in larger units than had previously been the case. The Machine Gun Corps (MGC) was formed in October 1915 with Infantry, Cavalry and Motor branches, followed in 1916 by the Heavy Branch. A depot and training centre was established at Belton Park in Grantham, Lincolnshire, and a base dépôt at Camiers in France (LLT).

The Infantry Branch, to which FDA was attached, was by far the largest branch and was formed initially by the transfer of battalion machine gun sections to the MGC, these being grouped into Brigade Machine Gun Companies, three per division. New companies were raised at Grantham. In 1917 a fourth company was added to each division. In February and March 1918, the four companies in each division were formed into a Machine Gun Battalion.

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh
The memorial to the men of the Machine Gun Corps stands at Hyde Park Corner in London. On the back of the memorial is a short history of the Corps. The price paid in terms of dead and wounded is only too clear for all to see.

FDA remained with the Machine Gun Corps in Mesopotamia during which time he was promoted to acting Major.

On the 27 August 1918 the London Gazette published a notice by Lieutenant General WR Marshall, Commanding-in-Chief, KCB, KCSI Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force adding names to his despatch of 15 April 1918 which brought to notice those who had served in Mesopotamia “for distinguished and gallant services and devotion to duty”. Among the names was that of Captain FD Ardagh, Machine Gun Corps, Infantry (LG 9 Jan 1920 31728 p 516).

On the 22nd May 1920 he ceased to be employed with the Machine Gun Corps and was restored to the establishment of the Royal West Surrey Regt. (LG Issue p 5822). He retired on the 13th November 1922 with the rank of Major and was awarded the 1914-15 Star and the British War and Victory medals.

Shortly after leaving the army, probably in 1923 he sailed to India to work with the Indian Forestry Service. He met his future wife Ethel Joyce there and on the 11 June 1924 they married in Kotagiri, Madras. Ethel had been born in Coonor, Madras on 4 June 1897 (Ancestry). They travelled to England together arriving in July 1924 to stay at the family home Court Hill Lodge Haslemere returning to India in January 1925.

In 1932 Ethel now with two young children, Patrick born in 1928 and Rosemary aged 1, visited England to stay with her parents-in-law, now at Comeragh in Haslemere. In November 1933 Christiana Ardagh died age 74 at Comeragh and was buried in Haslemere. William SA Ardagh MD lived on dying at Comeragh on the 3 Feb 1944 aged 82 (Times Dig archive, Deaths). Christiana’s death may have delayed Ethel’s departure but clearly she returned to India as in March 1935 the whole family travelled to London to stay at Comeragh once again. FDA returned alone leaving Ethel and the children in England and it is possible that the purpose of the visit was to arrange for Patrick to attend school as in October 1936 Ethel and her daughter Rosemary travelled alone to Cochin, the port of call at the tip of India for ships travelling to the Far East. Sadly, almost as soon as she arrived, news would have reached her that Patrick aged 9 had died on 14 December at East Grinstead in Sussex, where there were a number of preparatory boarding schools (The Times Dig. Archive, Deaths). He was buried in Uckfield, East Sussex (GRO 1936 2b p 199).

The movements of the family during the next 3 years are difficult to follow but in March 1939 Ethel arrived with Rosemary having sailed from Cochin to London giving her address in England as Comeragh, Haslemere. However she and FDA had a home, Beverley, Rambling Rd. Swanage where FDA was to join them. He appears to have followed that autumn but in September he was admitted to the Borough Isolation Hospital, Ringwood Rd., Poole following a stroke where he died on the 25th Sept 1939, the death certificate recording death from ‘General paralysis, sub-arachnoid haemorrhage’. On the 28 September 1939 he was buried at Haslemere (Times dig archive Sept 28) where his mother had been buried before him. He was just 45. His widow Ethel died in May 1990 in Uckfield, Sussex.

Sources:
Ancestry
Forces War Records
The Long, Long Trail (LLT)
London Gazette (LG)
Epsom College – yellow books
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
The Times digital archive

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Memorial to the men of the Machine Gun Corps on Hyde Park Corner.

 Courtesy of Dr Ivor Slee FRCA

Machine Gun Corps Memorial

 Courtesy of Dr Ivor Slee FRCA

Ardagh, Leslie Vernon

Entered Epsom College: 1909

Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.A. 1915-18

Birth Year: HMM? 

House: M.C.

Rank

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Ardagh, Lt.-Col. Robert William

Entered Epsom College: 1902

Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.

Birth Year: HMM? 

House: M.C.

Rank

Researcher:
Ashby, Harold Crowther

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.A. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank: T/Lt. R.F.A. 1914-18

Ashby, John

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Lt. (S.R.) Coldstream Guards 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank: Lt. (S.R.) Coldstream Guards 1914-18

Atkinson, Charles Henry Fairbank

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: R.N.V.R.
House: HMM?
Rank: Surg Lt

Died 1920 aged 35
Unit RNVR
Buried St. Tudy, Cornwall
Reference: OE Doctors


Atkinson, Denis Jackson

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1910
House: HMM?

OE Doctors

CHARLES HENRY FAIRBANK ATKINSON (1884-1920). O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1894-1902] was the son of J. H. Atkinson, banker, of Epsom, and brother of Dr John Gerald Atkinson [Epsom College 1894-1899]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, and went into general practice at St. Tudy, Cornwall. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Lieutenant in the R.N.V.R. Recognised by the CWGC as a War Casualty in 2012.
### Atkinson, Eric Miles

**Birth Year:** 1895  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1908  
**Regiment:** T/Surg. Lt. R.N. 1917  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**  

**Researcher:**


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### Atkinson, John Gerald

**Birth Year:** 1882  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1894  
**Regiment:** T/Surg. Lt. R.N.  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:** O.B.E.  

**Researcher:**


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### Attenborough, Arnold Leete

**Birth Year:** 1906  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1906  
**Regiment:** T/Surg. Lt. R.N.  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**  

**Researcher:**


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Attenborough, Keith Edward

Attenborough, Keith Edward, s. of Herbert Attenborough, jeweller and pawnbroker, of Beckenham, Kent, and brother of Arnold Leete Attenborough [Epsom College 1906-1908]. He received his medical education at St Mary's Hospital, and then went into general practice at Abbey Road, London, where he was also Medical Officer for the Home for Female Orphans, Grove Road, London, and Medical Officer for St Peter’s Home, Kilburn. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Navy (1914-1918).

Ayscough, Maj. Walter Guy

Walter was born on 19 July 1882 in Chiswick, the eldest son of John and Frances Elizabeth Ayscough. Walter was baptised at St Michael and All Angels Church, Bedford Park on 16 August 1882. The family was living at 10 Bath Rd, Chiswick and in the baptismal register his father was described as a merchant.

In the 1891 census the family was living at One Oak, Station Road, Ashtead, Surrey. Walter was 8. His father John was a 45 year old merchant shipper and Frances was 41, Walter had 3 siblings: Geoffrey M aged 7, Alice aged 5 and Ivan aged 3. The family employed three servants.

Walter was educated at Downsend, Ashtead and Epsom College. He entered Lower IV Wilson House on 21 September 1897. On Founder’s Day 1898 he was shown as being in Shell, a form in which the Headmaster took a particular interest, but he only managed to come 24th out of 25 pupils. He left at Easter the next year to join the regular army.

In 1901 the family was living at Oak View, Burnt Wood Lane, Ashtead, Surrey. Walter’s parents had his sister Alice and his youngest brother, 8 year old Alan, living with them, plus a cook and 2 housemaids. Walter was probably still in South Africa with the army. His brother Geoffrey was a military student at Woolwich and Ivan was a pupil at Charterhouse School.

Walter fought almost throughout the South African War including the siege of Wepner (Wepener or Wegner) in Brabant’s Horse and afterwards served with the Intelligence Department of Kitchener’s Fighting Scouts.
He was recommended for the DCM for his services in the South African war and also received the Queen’s and King’s medals with six clasps. Lord Roberts nominated him for a commission in the Kings Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). In 1910 he was awarded the Military Cross and mentioned in despatches.

He changed into the Indian Army and became adjutant of his regiment and station staff officer. He was on the staff of the Indian Council at the Durbar. In 1912 he was posted to the Persian Gulf as part of an operation to prevent gun running. In the autumn of 1914 he was posted to East Africa as special service officer attached to the Bharatpur Imperial Service Infantry. In 1917 he married Ada Beatrice, the second daughter of Sir William Dickson Cruickshank.

On 3 September 1917 his promotion to major was announced and he would have been the second in command of a battalion. He was killed in action 25 September 1917 and is buried in the Dar Es Salaam War cemetery in Tanzania P6, RF, G7. He was mentioned in despatches and awarded the 1915 star, British and victory medals.

His death was announced in the Times 4 Oct 1917:
“Killed in action in East Africa on 25 Sept 1917 Major Walter Guy Ayscough MC Indian Infantry, dearly loved husband of Ada Beatrice of Steart House, Burnham on Sea, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ayscough of Wimbledon, aged 35.” According to the Times a well known general wrote of him “He was always a first rate officer.”

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission recorded his widow’s address as Moor End Park, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire. His name is not on any memorial in Charlton Kings, Cheltenham nor in the local district as far as we are aware. He is listed on the Masonic roll of honour of the Mother Lodge Leight in Tirhoot no 1998.

Afternote: when Walter’s widow died, probate was granted to her son Anthony Edward Ayscough. No other details have been found.

6 Aug 2013
Sources
BMD Y
Parish Reg Y
Census Y 91,01,
Probate N
CWGC Y
Soldiers died N
TNA file Nil
Times Y 4 Oct 17
Epsomian
Ep Reg m/s Y =

AUSTIN LEWIS BADCOCK [afterwards BENTON] (1878-1953). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1893-1896] was the son of Dr L. C. Badcock, of Brighton, Sussex, brother of Leslie Herbert Badcock [Epsom College 1895-1897], Gerald Sydney Badcock [Epsom College 1896-1900], and father of John Michael Benton [Epsom College 1935-1940]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, and went into general practice at Hove, Sussex. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918).

Badcock, Gerald Sydney

Birth Year: 1882
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: Lieut. R.N.V.R. 1914-1918

Bailey, Edward Townley

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1913
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. W. Yorks Regt. 1916-18

Bailey, Robert Townley

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1906

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

OE Doctors

Edward Townley Bailey (born 1898). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. (Eng.) (born 1898) [Epsom College 1913-1916. prefect. Watts Science Prize] was the son of Arthur Bailey, mineral agent of Scarborough, Yorkshire, and brother of Dr Robert Townley Bailey, M.B.E. [Epsom College 1906-1911]. He was awarded the Freer Lucas Scholarship to the Middlesex Hospital, and during the First World War served as a Second Lieutenant in the West Yorkshire Regiment (1916-1918) at Ypres. He was later appointed Senior Assistant Medical Officer, St Leonard's Hospital, Hoxton, City of London, having previously been a Surgical Registrar at the Middlesex Hospital.
ROBERT TOWNLEY BAILEY (born 1893). M.B.E., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1906-1911] was the son of Arthur Bailey, mineral agent, of Scarborough, and brother of Dr Edward Townley Bailey [Epsom College 1913-1916]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, and then went into general practice at Streatham, South London, where he was also Medical Officer for the Home for Incurables, Streatham. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Navy (1914-1918).

Robert Townley Bailey.

Born 1893 – Lower School & Granville – left 1911 – MBE – MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP
Enrolled Royal Navy 26 October 1915 as T/Surgeon
Posted 9 April 1916 to HMS Active, light cruiser 3440 tons, 10 x 4”, 4 x 3 pdr
Fought Jutland 31 May/1 June 1916 – then 4th Destroyer Flotilla, Portsmouth – 1917 Queenstown
Posted 9 September 1918 to Royal Naval Hospital, Larbert as T/Surgeon Lieutenant

Bakewell, George Victor

Decorations: O.B.E.


Bangay, Frank Dorrington

Decorations: 

Bangay, Frank Dorrington, s. of dr. Richard Bangay of Lyme Regis, b. 1881, W., l. 1897 for H.M.S. Worcester, master mariner, Lt.-Cdr. R.N.V.R. 1917-18, brother of R. D. B. (1896); Cobb Cottage, Swimbridge, North Devon

Banks, Harry

Decorations: 

Banks, Harry, Entered Epsom College: 1908
HARRY BANKS (1894-1981). M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Dublin), R.C.S. (Edin.) [Epsom College 1908-1912. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr Isaac Banks, of Aberdare, South Wales. He received his medical education at Trinity College Dublin, and went into general practice at Aberdare, Glamorgan, where he was also Surgeon and Radiologist to Aberdare General Hospital, Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Aberdare Urban Lower Districts, and Surgeon for the Aberdare Educational Authority for ‘Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids’. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Navy (1917) on destroyers. He was a J.P. for the County of Glamorgan.

Bannister, Howard Blair

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Lt. B.W.I. Regt. 1914-18

Barber, Sydney Stuart

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: Lieut. (S.R.) Devon Regt. 1914-18

Barcroft, John Henry Percy

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Maj. (S.R.) Royal Sussex Regt. From 1914

Barefoot, Lt.-Col. George William Norman

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.I.F.

Birth Year: 1883
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: Surg. Cdr. R.N. But could have served as T.Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-1
Rank


Sergeant-COMMANDER JAMES LESLIE BARFORD (1883-1950). R.N., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), D.P.M. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1896-1901] was the son of Dr J. G. Barford, of Easthampstead, Berkshire. He rec'd his medical education at King's College Hospital, and from 1906 until 1919 served in the Royal Navy, becoming the youngest Surgeon-Commander in the Service at the end of the First World War. After the war he spent several years as Surgeon with the Merchant Navy, mainly with the P. and O. Line. He then eloped a interest in psychiatry, and was appointed medical officer at the Royal Earlswood Institution. During the Second World War he was Medical Officer to the Surrey County Council Civil Defence Organization. In 1946 he spent nine months in the Antarctic with the first post-war whaling expedition, carrying out research into the collection and large-scale manufacture of various glandular products. On his ret his desire for adventure soon reasserted itself and he joined the Post Office Telegraph Ship 'Alert,' and later H.M.T.S Monarch.

Barnett, Guy
Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Rank 2Lt

Guy was born on 31 July 1890 (GRO ref: Sept 1890 Church Stretton 6a 560) the only child of Horatio and Margaret Elizabeth Barnett. His parents had married the previous year. (GRO ref: Dec 1889 Madeley 6a 1288). In 1891, 28 year old Horatio was a registered medical practitioner. He and Margaret Elizabeth who was 26, were living in Burway House, Church Stretton in Shropshire. Guy was 8 months old. The family was comfortably off and employed 4 servants: a cook, page, nurse and a maid.

In 1901 10 year old Guy was at a Church of England school at 101 Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton. His parents were still living at Burway House, Church Street, Church Stretton.

Guy went on to Epsom College on 19 January 1905. At the time his father gave their address as Stretton House, Church Stretton. Guy was in Forest House until he left in July 1909. He had an undistinguished career academically. He was in the B stream and his apogee was winning the carpentry prize in 1908. He was described in the Epsomian magazine as “A quiet boy with an affectionate nature, eager to please not brilliant at work but taking an intelligent interest in it. No great athlete but a keen member of the OTC.”

On leaving school he worked at first at the medical profession but gave that up, we believe, for the intention of farming in
Canada. He spent some time at the Harper-Adams Agricultural College at Newport in Shropshire. By the 1911 census the family had moved again to a 10 roomed house, Woodcote, in Church Stretton. Horatio Barnett was still working as a medical practitioner. He was 48 years old and Margaret Elizabeth was 46. Guy aged 20 was an agricultural student. His parents confirmed that they had been married 21 years and had just the one child.

On the outbreak of war Guy volunteered and was appointed to a probationary commission in 5th (Reserve) Bn Worcester Regiment on 15 August 1914. The London Gazette 9 Mar 1915 announced that his appointment had been confirmed. He was killed in action on 12 March 1915 in the heavy fighting at Neuve Chapelle.” The date of his death varies from 11 to 14 Mar in different sources. The CWGC date has been used here. His father’s address at the time of his death was given as The Limes, Church Stretton.

His death was announced in the Times 19 Mar 1915. He is remembered on the Le Touret memorial panels 17 and 18. He is also remembered on the Church Stretton War Memorial and in St Laurence’s church.

Sources
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian
EC register
Free BMD
Probate not found
Soldiers died
Times
Wellington News & Shrewsbury Journal March 27th 1915.

2 Aug 2013

Guy Barnett
Church Stretton War Memorial

The panel in St. Laurence's Church, Church Stretton
### Barr, John Wilson
- **Birth Year:** 1895
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1906
- **Regiment:** Canadian Mil. Forces 1914-18
- **Rank:** HMM? □
- **Decorations:**
- **Researcher:**

### Barrack, Arthur Matthews
- **Birth Year:** 1882
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1895
- **Regiment:** Sgt, R.W. Surrey Regt. 1914-18
- **Rank:** HMM? □
- **Decorations:**
- **Researcher:**

### Barrack, John Charles
- **Birth Year:** 1881
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1894
- **Regiment:** Capt. Sikh Pioneers 1914-18, desp
- **Rank:** HMM? □
- **Decorations:** C.M.G., M.V.O
- **Researcher:**

### Barron, Willie Netterville
- **Birth Year:** 1886
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1886
- **Regiment:** T/Col. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
- **Rank:** HMM? □
- **Decorations:**
- **Researcher:**

---

Wellington News & Shrewsbury Journal March 27th 1915.

Barnett’s obituary in the local newspaper

Barry, Caryl Arthur Ransome

Birth Year: 1891 Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. Queen’s Royal Regt. And Provost Staff 1914-18 House: DB
Rank: Pte

Barton, Edward Chantler

Birth Year: 1893 Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Pte Middx Regt. Died of wounds 1916 House: DB
Rank: Pte

Barton, Edward Chantler

Died 07/07/16 aged 23 Unit 16th Bn Middlesex
Buried Abbeville Communal, France Reference: IV. F. 17

Edward was born on 18 March 1893 (GRO reference: Jun 1893 Epsom 2a 18) to Arthur Chantler Barton and Florence, his wife. Edward was baptised at St Martin’s church, Epsom on 25 April 1893, whilst living at ‘The Laurels’, St Martin’s Road, Epsom. I have been unable to find a marriage record for Edward’s parents.

The 1881 census recorded the family living at 159 Slack Lane, Barton-Upon-Irwell, Lancashire. Edward’s father was a 21 year old oil merchant’s clerk. His mother was aged 19, and an older sibling, Patrick, was recorded, aged 7 weeks. Edward’s uncle, 23 year old Edward William Barton, a bank clerk, was living with them. The family employed a15 year old, female, general servant.

By 1891 the family had moved to ‘The Laurels’, St. Martin’s Lane, Epsom. Edward’s father had become an oil manufacturer’s agent. Three children were listed: George aged 10, Maud aged 8 and Constance aged 6. The employed a general servant. It is not clear what had happened to Patrick.

The family was not living together when the 1901 census was taken. Edward aged 8, was recorded at ‘Southcliffe’, Lowcliffe Battery Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight, with his eighteen year old sister Maud and 5 year old sister Phyllis. A domestic nurse was also listed with them. Maud was recorded as the head of the family, ‘living on father’s means’. Perhaps they were there on holiday. Edward’s parents, his brother George (a stockbroker’s clerk), and his sister Constance, were living at 43, Holland Road, Kensington.

Edward was a pupil at Upland House School, Epsom, a preparatory school for boys aged between 8 and 14, so he would have attended at some time between 1901 and 1907. Edward later went on to study at Epsom College as a Day Boy or “Home Boader” in Wilson House from 2 January 1908 until April 19118 He was on the Modern Studies side of the College’s curriculum, and a middle of the road student. In 1910 he came 9th out of 21 students.
The 1911 census recorded Edward living at ‘Prestbury’, Links Road, Epsom. His father aged 51 had risen to be a director of an oil manufacturers. His mother aged 49 recorded that she had been married for 31 years and had given birth to 7 children, 5 of whom were still living. Edward and his sister Phyllis were both recorded as students. The family employed a general domestic servant.

After leaving school Edward took an apprenticeship, on 22 May 1911, with the Great Western Railway and became a draughtsman in the locomotive and carriage department, until he enlisted at St James, London on 7 September 1914.

Edward served in the 16th (Public Schools) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment which had been formed on 1 September 1914 in London. He moved first to Kempton Park race-course then to Warlingham in Surrey, then to Clipstone Camp, and finally to Perham Down, a huddled camp near Tidworth in Wiltshire, before being sent to France. Edward and the battalion landed at Boulogne on 17 November 1915 and on 25 April 1916 and became part of the 86th Brigade in 29th Division.

The 1916 Battle of the Somme commenced on 1 July. The 86th Brigade was ordered to attack the village of Beaumont Hamel and was to be helped by the explosion of a large mine under a German strongpoint called the Hawthorn Redoubt. The explosion was captured on film, and often features on television programmes about the Great War. The mine was one of 17, all timed to explode at 0728 hours except the Hawthorn mine, which the Corps commander insisted on being blown at 0720 hours. This was a mistake as it gave the Germans time to reach the crater first and take hurried defensive positions.

The 16th Middlesex did not attack with the first wave, as they were in support and attacked later. But when they did, they found uncut barbed wire and were shot at by machine guns. Apart from approximately 120 men in the crater, no other men from the 86th Brigade reached the German front line.

7 officers and 155 other ranks from the 16th Middlesex died on 1 July 1916 and a further 4 officers and 19 other ranks died later in July of the wounds they received that day.

One of those wounded was Edward who was evacuated back to a base hospital at Abbeville but died on 7 July. His death was announced in the Times 15 July 1916:

BARTON. -- Died of wounds (received in action July 1st) at the hospital, Abbeville, France. July 7th. Private Edward Chantler Barton. Middlesex Regiment, younger son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Barton, late of Epsom, aged 23 years.

Edward is buried in grave IV F 17, in Abbeville Communal Cemetery.

He was awarded the 1915 Star, the British War medal and the Victory medal.

6 Aug

Sources
CWGC
Census 1881,1891,1901,1911
Free BMD
Medal Index Cards
Service record-not survived
Soldiers died
Times
Barton, Henry Reyner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1893</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1906</th>
<th>Regiment: Cpl. 13th City of London Regt. 1914-18</th>
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Barton, Maurice Holdsworth

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<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1889</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1902</th>
<th>Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18</th>
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Bateman, Gerald Cooper

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<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1890</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1906</th>
<th>Regiment: T/Lt. The Buffs 1916-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Batterbury, Thomas Fawcett

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1881</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1895</th>
<th>Regiment: Pte, Middx Regt., missing, believed killed, 1917</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
BATTERBURY Thomas Fawcett, Private G/27332
4 Bn Duke of Cambridge’s Own (Middlesex) Regiment
10 Oct 1917

Thomas was born on 28 June 1881 at Wimborne, Dorset (GRO ref: Sep 1881 Wimborne 5a 263) the son of George and Jessie (nee Flower) Batterbury. They had married in 1878 (GRO ref: Dec 1878 Wimborne 5a 283). Thomas was baptised at Wimborne Minister, Dorset on 24 Aug 1881. In 1891 the family was living at West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset. George was a 41 year old doctor and GP. Jessie was 43. They had four children: Hilda aged 11, Thomas 9, Geoffrey 6 and Janet aged 2. The family employed a cook, housemaid and nurse.

Thomas attended Epsom College from 24 Sept 1895 to July 1898 in Granville House. He started in the Upper IV form and achieved 17th position out of 22 pupils. By 1898 he was in the Modern Middle school and could only manage 10th position out of 13 students.

In the 1901 census Thomas was 19 and working as a bank clerk. He was lodging at a boarding house at 34 Nelson Road Portsmouth

By 1911 Thomas had moved to Norfolk and was lodging at a boarding house at 5 St Philip Road, Norwich. He was continuing to work as a bank clerk. His parents were still living at 29 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset, a 15 roomed house. The census shows that they had 4 children, all living.

Thomas enlisted at Canterbury, Kent. His service record has not survived but the Middlesex regiment is known to have taken part in the 3rd battle of Ypres. He was reported missing in action and it was later confirmed that he had been killed on 10 Oct 1917. He is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial, panels 113-115. He was awarded the British and Victory medals.

Probate was granted to his sister Hilda Flower Batterbury, spinster, on 14 Jan 1919. Thomas’s address was given as 69 Blenheim Road, Deal, Kent and his effects were valued at £538 2s 4d.

Sources
BMD
Bapt register Wimborne
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian-not found
Epsom Register m/s +yellow book
Medal Index card-under Battersbury
Newspaper-no reports
Probate
Service records-not survived
Soldiers died

6 Aug 2013

Baxter, Ralph

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Lt. S. Staffs Regt. 1914-18

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Decorations:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Baxter, Ralph, s. of J. P. Baxter, mechanical engineer, of Ewell, b. 1897, D.B., l. 1910, occupation unknown, T/Lt. S. Staffs Regt. 1914-18

Baylis, Bryan Holbrook

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1905

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Decorations:

Baylis, Bryan Holbrook, s. of C. W. B. (1868), b. 1896, W., l. 1908 for Berkhamsted, journalist, Lieut. R.G.A. (S.R.) 1916-18; 169 George Street, Bryanston Square

Beard, Edward

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Lt. M.G.C. 1914-18

Beard, Francis Patrick Barry

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: Sapper R.E. 1914-18

Beard, Frederic Gerald Vesey

Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1903

Letter from F.G.V. Beard to Casper Swinley: Epsom College Archive

My dear Swinley,

I hope you are going strong and enjoying life. I am afraid it is a long time since I have written to you but I have not had much time. I expect you would like to hear my experiences so I will get to them straight away.

I went to this battalion on December 1st at Suvla just after the big flood. The trenches were in a terrible state and no one had any kit except what they had on. 3 days before the trenches had been anything up to 6 foot deep in water and were still in an appalling state. Everything had been sent away ready for the evacuation and then the storm came and the evacuation had to be postponed. The result was that I got no clean clothes from Dec. 1st until we got to Imbros 3 weeks later, and those who had been through the flood were even worse off. We spent the time in remaking the trenches; a new fire step everywhere and a

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Beard, Edward, brother of F. G. V. B. (1903), b. 1891, F., prefect, Engledue E. Pr., l. 1910, Home Civil Service, T/Lt. M.G.C. 1914-18, T/Lt. R.A.P.C. 1940; 14 Wilmerhatch Lane, Epsom

Beard, Francis Patrick Barry, brother of E. B. (1905), b. 1895, L.S. and F., l. 1911, Home Civil Service, M. of W., A.M.I.C.E., sapper R.E. 1914-18; 31 St. George’s Square, S.W. i

Beard, Frederick Gerald V

Died 04/07/16 aged 27
Unit 9th Bn Worcesters
Buried Thiepval Memorial, France
Reference: Pier 5A 6C

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Beard, Edward, s. of C. W. B. (1868), b. 1896, W., l. 1908 for Berkhamsted, journalist, Lieut. R.G.A. (S.R.) 1916-18; 169 George Street, Bryanston Square

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Letter from F.G.V. Beard to Casper Swinley: Epsom College Archive

4th Worcestershire Regt
28.1816.
29 Division M.E.F.
new parapet in many places was the first job. Then we had to dig up the sandbags that had been dumped on the floor when the rain first came, in a vain effort to make dry islands. The removal of these disclosed equipment blankets ammunition etc which had been washed away and buried. Having cleaned up our own lines we next took in the lines on our right which had been evacuated by a Territorial battalion who - well they did not distinguish themselves. Here we rescued hundreds of blankets etc and even found a machine gun, revolvers and field glasses. All the time this was going on we were organising the evacuation. As acting adjutant I saw rather more of the working of things than the average subaltern. First of all, all the troops in support and reserve were embarked * and the troops in the firing line sent back parties to keep the usual fires going and to move about so that 100 men should look like 500. This left us with about 250 men for what had previously been held by 800. After 24 hours of this we got to the last night. We left in 3 parties one at dusk (5.30) one at about 10, the last at about 1 a.m. The last party 40 men had to hold a line about 500 yards long. It sounds fairly simple but it was no easy job. Everyone had to be kept going. The usual amount of firing had to be kept up, telephones had to be removed at the last minute, and the parties going off had to keep absolute silence. Silence in itself is a difficult thing when you have to move say 100 men in a narrow trench on a dark night in full marching order and carrying blankets dixies, mess cup and plates and all the thousand and one things which in the ordinary way could go in the regimental transport. However we did it and not only was not a man hit, but not a single thing was left behind, the trenches were absolutely bare, not a pick not a shovel not even a knife or plate, even bully beef the one thing we did leave a little of was buried. Of course I can only vouch for my own battalion but others told me the same story. So much for Suvla, we had gone, and the Turk never had the faintest suspicion.

In three days we were at Helles. Here we had a week in reserve. Reserve contrary to the belief of most people is not a rest - not on the peninsula at any rate - it is a special form of torture invented by the General Staff to encourage you to get back to the trenches. We spent the week in digging and swimming (and cursing when we had time). We were told officially that we were improving the communication trenches (i.e. removing mud). The trenches were like the famous widow’s cruse - I mean the widow’s famous cruse.

After a week of this we were quite pleased to be given about 6 hours notice to push off to the firing line, not so much work and not so much shell fire. So on New Year’s Eve off we pushed, and after long wonderings found ourselves there at midnight. Next morning we looked around and lo and behold there was lots of work to do, the trenches needed widening and the parapet almost entirely renewing. The Scotchman seems as sparing of his sandbags as his sixpence. However we kept our spirits up by bucking about the absence of shell fire - but yet another bitter blow about 1830 p.m. along they came all sorts and kinds and sizes. However very little damage was done and no casualties occurred. This went on for the whole week we were there. The evacuation was very similar to that at Suvla in the way in which parties left. The system of trenches at Helles was very much more intricate than at Suvla * so to prevent the possibility of units getting lost - a very easy matter - every trench was barricaded except the main communication trench to the beach and the actual front firing lines. There was at Helles very little attempt to save stores, in fact everything was left, except men, rifles, guns, and shells, everything else was left, even mules and waggons. We spent most of the last day burying small arm ammunition and bombs and destroying blankets, trench boots, blankets etc.

I got leave from the C.O. to stay with the last party, we were 70 strong on a front of about 450 yards. It was rather an anxious time as we were there three hours without any possibility of help if we wereatta cked. However all went well and at 11845 p.m. we marched out for the beach. Here after a short wait we boarded a motor lighter and were taken on board a destroyer. We stayed off the beach for a little while picking up odd men and then sailed for imbos at about 4 a.m. nearly the last boat to leave. I believe a lighter with about 100 men on board was the only one after us. Just before we left they set light to all the remaining stores, ammunition and explosives. It was a really wonderful sight - flares hundreds of feet high, small arm ammunition crackling away like about 100 machine guns all firing at once, and then a colossal explosion and utter darkness. Then flop, flop, flop, crack bang - great chunks of rock were falling on our deck. The time fuse had gone off too soon. Gradually the smoke and dust cleared away and the fires shone out once more.

We left Helles. It was a sad moment the last sight of this spot where so many brave men had lost their lives and success had been so near. But the remorse was less keen when one thought of the wonderful way in which the evacuation had been accomplished. It will surely go down to history as one of the most wonderful feats of the whole of this great war. Well this is about all I can tackle now. I have just heard I am probably getting leave to England so will look you up before or just after you get this.

Cheery oh.

Yrs V. sincerely

F.G.V. Beard.

Liz Manterfield, 6 August 2013

BEARD Frederic Gerald Vesey Lieutenant 9th Bn Worcestershire Regt attached to 4th
Killed on 4 July 1916 aged 26

Frederic was born 17 Dec 1889 in South Croydon [GRO ref: Mar 1890 Croydon 2a 218, the son of Dr Frederic Beard MB and Geraldine Louisa nee Vesey. His parents had married on 4 April 1888, at St Mary’s Wimbledon [GRO ref: June 1888 Kingston 2a 525.]. In 1891 Frederic and his mother were staying with his paternal grandparents and eight maiden aunts at Willesden Hall, Wye, Kent. (NB his mother was recorded in the census as Gwendolene rather than Geraldine.) His 28 year old father was a general practitioner living at 17 Brighton Road in Croydon, with one servant. In 1901 the family was living at Crossways, Warham Rd, Croydon. Frederic senior was a 38 year old physician and surgeon. Geraldine was 40. They had two children at home: Francis who was 6 and Eleanor who was 4. I have been unable to find Frederic.

Frederic entered the Lower IV form of Epsom College’s Senior School, Wilson House, on 17 September 1903. At the time his
parents were still living at Crossways. Frederic was a high achiever from the start. He came 4th out of 21 pupils in the Middle IV form, 2nd in his form in 1905 and won the Junior Watts prize for scientific subjects. In July 1906 he won the Divinity prize. 1907 he was top of his form on the Modern side of the school, but 14th out of 17 pupils in his year. Nevertheless he won an Open Scholarship to Clare College Cambridge. In 1908 he came 3rd in his year in the Modern VI form Division A. He became a school prefect and won the Martin Mathematics prize. He was also a good all round sportsman and played in the Cricket 1st XI, Hockey 1st XI and Rugby 1st XV (see photo). His brothers Edward and Frances both followed him to Epsom College, entering in 1905 and 1909 respectively. After leaving Epsom College in July 1908 he enrolled at the Strand School, Elm Park, Tulse Hill in September of that year until 21 July 1909. This School had been established to coach boys wishing to take the Civil Service entry exam, but from 1905 it had been allowed to be a centre for training pupil teachers and this was Frederic’s intention. By 1911 he was a resident tutor at a boarding school “Seafield”, Collington Lane, Bexhill, Sussex. His parents were living in a 12 room house at 2 Warham Rd, Croydon. By then they had had 5 children, 4 of whom had survived. Frederic’s siblings. 19 year old Edward and 14 year old Eleanor Alys Jean, were living at home along with 2 servants and a visiting 14 year old French student. Frederic gained a BA at Trinity College Dublin achieving a First Class pass in the final Freshman exams in 1912. For a short time he was a master at Aravon School, Bray, County Wicklow.

In 1914 Frederic joined the 18th battalion (Public Schools) of the Royal Fusiliers at 6 Victoria Street, London on 2 September. He was 5ft 6inches tall, weighed 144lbs, had a 34½ inch chest with a 2½ inch expansion.He had a good physical development, with good eyesight and 3 vaccination marks on his left arm. He had a medium complexion, brown hair and blue eyes. He was of good moral character, and Church of England faith. He was found fit for general service and was posted as a private on 15 September, promoted to corporal on 3 October. He was on home service until 23 November 1914. He applied for a commission on 7 November 1914 and contacted a cousin, Captain Ivo Vesey, to seek his assistance in obtaining it. Vesey was about to go to the front (see letter), and recommended that Frederic mentioned to the Military Secretary’s Department that they were cousins. It must have worked because Frederic was commissioned into the Worcestershire Regiment on 23 Nov 1914. Although in the 9th Bn he would spend most of his time attached to the 4th. He was amongst the officers with 9th Bn embarking on 20 June 1915 for Gallipoli. On 6 August 1915 his father received a telegram informing him that Frederic had been admitted to the Anglo-American hospital at Ghezirah, Cairo on 4 August with enteritis (see telegram). He recovered and during his service there he took part in the evacuations of both Suvla Bay and Cape Helles. The Regimental history records that: “After all this had fallen the final stages of the evacuation began. It had been planned elaborately with successive parties moving off at different hours. The rear guard of the 4th Bn Worcestershires was a party of 4 officers and 82 NCOs and men under Captain Hambling. The withdrawal from the trenches before Krithia was complicated by the fact that the enemy’s trenches were so close–often within 60 yards—that every movement could easily be heard. As a precaution straw was put down in the trenches, and in the 4th Worcestershires at least, the troops wore special “blanket boots” cut from old blankets. Thanks to these precautions and the stormy wind the enemy apparently heard nothing. The main body of men left soon after dark and embarked from W beach onto Lydiard.” He was promoted from temporary 2nd Lt to temporary Lt with effect from 20 Jan 1916.” Neither the 4th or 9th Bn was destined to stay long in Egypt. The 9th received orders in February to proceed to Mesopotamia. Their ship passed the camp of the 29th Division and Beard was probably amongst the officers of the 4th Bn that boarded the troopship to wish them well. Three weeks later the 29th Div, which included the 4th Bn Worcesters, received orders to proceed to France. On the night of 14/15 March Frederic and his Bn entrained at Suez to board the Transylvania at Alexandria. After dark on the 15 March they embarked for France.

Once in France Frederic and his Battalion were posted to the Somme and took part in the First Battle of the Somme which commenced on 1 July 1916. “A mile further south, the 4th Worcestershire had remained in position facing Beaumont Hamel, since the opening day of the battle. Any idea of renewing attack in that sector had been abandoned, and the activities of the Battalion were restricted to the repair of the defences and the clearing of the battle-field. The latter was a difficult, dangerous and unpleasant task; but it had to be done, and the 4th Worcestershire and 1st Essex were the only battalions of the 29th Division still capable of serious work; so no relief was possible and for thirteen long days and nights the Battalion laboured on the trenches and in the open ground beyond. At first the task was complicated by heavy rain: later the weather cleared and by July 6th the Battalion Diary recorded a visible improvement. The enemy’s artillery was active and the German snipers were on the alert. Casualties were frequent and between the 2nd and the 14th of July the Battalion lost of all ranks. (g) July 2nd 3rd killed and wo d. July 4th—Lieut. F. G. V. Beard killed by sniper. 1 killed, 21 wounded. July 6th—13th—6 killed, 14 wounded.” Stacke. Apart from the Epsom College memoir, Frederic is remembered on Thiepval Memorial, and on the Aravon school memorial, Christ Church of Ireland, Bray, C. Wicklow. He is also remembered on the Guy’s Hospital Memorial, as the son of a medical man who had trained there. He died intestate and the administration of his effects was granted to his father on 6 Nov 1916. He left £174 1s 8d. His effects returned from the front comprised a purse containing 13 francs in a 10 franc note and some coins, 1 10 disc, a looking glass in a case, 4 photos, letters, cigarette case, pocket book, tobacco pipe and pouch, an electric torch, a wrist watch, and 1 pair of nail scissors. He received the 1915 star, the British and Victory medals Sources: 

Postcard sent to Caspar Swinley
CWGC
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
Free BMD
Medal Index card
Probate
Regimental history HMF Stacke-major source of detail on military operations
Soldiers Died
Beard’s death telegram

A photograph of the trench at Gallipoli sent to Swinley by Beard.

Beard in the 1st XV, 1907-8 (detail)
Beard in the Football XV, 1907-8

A postcard from Beard to Swinley in early 1915, before he left for Gallipoli.

Beard was at first unsuccessful in gaining a commission.
One of Beard's many letters to his Wilson House friend, Casper Swinley.

The telegram announcing Beard's illness.

Beard's photograph on the Wilson House War Memorial
Bedford, Davis Evan


“I was cured by ‘M & B,’ - Moran and Bedford.” Sir Winston Churchill. (1943).

When one of his patients asked Dr Davis Evan Bedford (1898-1978) [Epsom College 1913-1916] whether his heart attack could be cured, he quickly responded: “Cured ? If you lose your foot under a bus you don’t ask to be cured. You’ve lost the foot of your ‘eart.” Blunt, honest, possessing a deadpan humour, Evan Bedford was a highly literate man who wore tortoiseshell glasses and spoke while a cigarette stub dangled from his lower lip. He was the son of William Bedford, J.P., a flour miller from Boston, Lincolnshire. He received his medical training at the Middlesex Hospital, but the onset of the First World War meant that he had to curtail his studies. He joined the R.N.V.R. as a sub-lieutenant in destroyers and after the war returned to complete his medical studies. Two years later he was appointed as registrar to Sir Robert Arthur Young and Dr George Beaumont and it was at that time that he developed his lifelong interest in heart disease. After that he travelled to Paris where he underwent a period of study with Laubry and Gallavardin, the great French cardiologists.

On his return to England he was awarded a research scholarship at the London Hospital under the eminent cardiologist Sir John Parkinson. This marked an association which later was to make the names of Parkinson and Bedford one of the best known combinations in the contemporary literature of cardiology. Together, they published a series of papers which became internationally acclaimed classics. This was at a time when cardiology was regarded as part of general medicine rather than a specialty in its own right.

From his French experience Evan Bedford had learned the importance of documenting the findings on his patients and personally conducting autopsies to make clinical correlations. He was once informed that one of his patients had died the previous night. “I know,” replied Bedford, “Thank you, I know, I have his heart in my bag.”

In 1926, Evan Bedford was appointed Physician at the Middlesex Hospital and the National Heart Hospital, and at that time he was one of the first cardiologists in England to study myocardial infarction (heart attacks) which had previously been thought of as infrequent and fatal. His study in 1928 of 100 cases of coronary thrombosis was a landmark contribution to cardiology. He worked closely with the eminent heart surgeons Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors and Sir Russell Brock, and spent long periods in the operating theatre witnessing the surgical treatment of heart lesions that he had correctly diagnosed. His ability to select suitable patients for operation was legendary, and many of the successful results in such conditions as mitral valvotomy and the closure of septal defects (‘hole in the heart defects’) were due to his skills and accuracy.

In December 1943, he was summoned by Lord Moran to attend Sir Winston Churchill who had developed pneumonia with cardiac complications. “[Bedford’s] presence,” wrote Lord Moran, “will keep the people at home quiet.” It also provided the Prime Minister with the idea that M & B 693, one of the new sulphonamide drugs used to treat him should be renamed ‘Moran and Bedford.’

After the war Bedford returned to his hospital duties at the Middlesex and National Heart Hospitals. His private practice soon became the largest and most distinguished in his specialty. He was at his

MAS
Beesley, Anthony Blyton

Birth Year: 1900  
Entered Epsom College: 1913  
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.A.F. Died 1918

Anthony was born on New Year’s Day 1900, in Exmouth, Devon (GRO ref: Mar 1900 St Thomas 5b 29). He was the second son of Clarence Blyton Beesley and his wife, Margaret Ellen nee Wood. His parents had married in Wakefield in 1894. In 1901 the family was living at Redvers, Exeter Road, Withycombe Raleigh near Exmouth, Devon. Clarence was aged 36 and working as a surgeon. Margaret was 28. Anthony’s older brother Clarence junior was 5, and Anthony was 18. The family employed 2 servants.

In the 1911 census Redvers, where the family was living, was described as a 10 roomed house. Clarence junior and Anthony were not at home on the night of the census, but Anthony’s two younger siblings, Ivo Blyton Beesley born in 1902 and Margaret who was 18 months old were there.

Anthony won a Council Exhibition to Epsom College, one of only four awarded that year. These were awarded to deserving students after examination and reduced the annual school fees from £36 15s. (check how much for medics) The College could award up to 10 of these exhibitions. Anthony entered Forest House on 2 May 1913 and continued his early promise coming top of the Middle IV year and winning the form prize. He missed some schooling in 1914, probably through health problems and sank to the bottom of his year. However, he picked himself up and passed the London University Matriculation exam in January 1916. At 16 he was one of the youngest candidates to do so. His proud parents placed an announcement of his achievement in their local paper. In 1917 he came fifth in the Modern sixth form (11 Pupils) and won the Watts Prize for scientific achievement. His abilities extended to the sports field: he became rugby captain in Jan 1917 and brought considerable energy and profit to the team. The critique published in the Epsomian Mar 1917 describes him as having plenty of dash but inclined to hold onto the ball too long. He also played in the School cricket XI. He was a corporal in the Epsom College OTC and became a prefect.

Anthony joined the RNAS 16 Dec 1917 as a Probationary Flying Officer at Greenwich. He was subsequently transferred to 120 Squadron Royal Air Force at Cramlington near Newcastle on its formation (1 Jan 918). He obtained his wings on 12 April 1918. On 25 September 1918 he was promoted to Temp 2nd Lieutenant.
He was injured in a flying accident on 21 May 1918 but recovered sufficiently for brief service with the Expeditionary Force in France in October of the same year. The squadron was intended to reinforce daylight bombing forces in France but never saw operational service. It was eventually equipped with DH9 bi-planes.

Tragically, however, Anthony fell victim to the influenza epidemic, developing septic pneumonia. He died in England at the V.A.D. Hospital, Huntingdon on 1 December 1918 and was buried at Hampstead St John’s Additional Burial Ground Grave Plot 1 grave 218. His grave is marked by a granite cross on a stepped plinth and not the standard War Graves Commission headstone.

A short announcement appeared in The Times 6 Dec 1918.

He is also remembered on the Exmouth and Hampstead war memorials.

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals. These were sold as a pair by Christie’s in 2000.

Sources
CWGC
EC Register and Epsomian
De Ruvigny Roll of honour. No photo
Find a grave website
Free BMD
Internet: Tomb with a view
Medal Index card
Times Dec 6 1918
TNA AIR 76/31/104
2 Aug 13

Bell, Surg. Capt. Kenelm Digby

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Benjafield, Norman Barnett

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Bennett, Claude John Eddowes

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Bennett, Oliver Penlyn

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### Bennett, Oliver Penlyn
- **Birth Year:** 1889
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1891
- **Regiment:** Maj. I.A.

### Benton, Maj. Hugh Gordon
- **Birth Year:** 1885
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1897
- **Regiment:** Maj. I.A.

### Bernays, Charles Murchison
- **Birth Year:** 1880
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1891
- **Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-1918, desp.

### Berridge, Noel
- **Birth Year:** 1886
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1897
- **Regiment:** Pte. H.A.C. 1914-18

### Berry, Charles Windsor
- **Birth Year:** 1876
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1890
- **Regiment:** T/Capt. Liverpool Regt. 1914-18

### Biden, William Mervyn
- **Birth Year:** 1889
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1895
- **Decorations:** M.C.

Biggs, Air Vice-Marshall Kenneth

Biggs, Arthur Cecil Barker

Biggs, Maurice Crosier

Blake, John Churchill

Blenkarne, Rupert Harrison
Blenkarne, Rupert Harrison, s. of dr. W. 'H. Blenkarne of Worthing, b. 1891, L.S. and G., l. 1908, bank manager, Pte. E. Surrey Regt. 1914-18; Crowhurst, Old Oxted, Surrey.

**Blenkarne, Roydon Morrison**

- **Birth Year:** 1897
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1909
- **Regiment:** T/Lt. M.G.C. 1916-18

**Blunt, Surg. Capt. Thomas Edward**

- **Birth Year:** 1876
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1890
- **Regiment:** Srg. Capt. R.N.

**Bogle, James Main Linton**

- **Birth Year:** 1890
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1904
- **Regiment:** T/Lt.-Col. R.E.

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**Surgeon Capt Thomas Edward Blunt RN MRCS LRCP**

Royal Navy

*Thomas Blunt left Wilson House in 1895 to begin his medical training at the London Hospital. After qualifying he served in the Royal Navy, at one point during the First World War on HMS Lord Nelson. It is likely that he was still aboard when, in 1919, the Lord Nelson assisted in the evacuation of Grand Dukes Nicholas and Peter from the Black Sea to Genoa and Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna with Grand Duke Nicholas from Malta to the U.K. Grand Duke Nicholas, with Prince Felix Yusupov may also have disembarked at Genoa. This incident probably explains Surgeon Captain Blunt's Order of St. Anne.*

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**Bogle, James Main Linton, M.C., T.D., s. of dr. J. L. Bogle of Bordighera, b. 1890, P., prefect, Wakley Pr., l. 1908, L'pool U.,**
Bomford, Herbert James Powell

Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Lt. Artist’s Rifles and R.F.C. 1914-18


Booth, Lionel Hethorn

Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: T/Capt. E.A.E.F.


Boulton, Major-General Harold

Entered Epsom College: 1885
Regiment: 1872


Harold Boulton (HB) was born on 7th September 1872 in Horncastle, Lincolnshire (GRO 7a 521), the son of Dr Albert E Boulton (1842-1899) a general practitioner and his wife Georgiana Williams (1865-1881). He had an older brother Arthur (1866-1932) who also went to Epsom College in 1880. Arthur eventually took over their father’s practice in Horncastle and sent his son, Montague, to Epsom in 1909. Montague served as a T/Lt in the 4th Reserve Regt of Cavalry in 1914-18.

In 1885 HB’s father entered him for Epsom and he started in Form IV that September in Granville House, where he was to become a very distinguished scholar. During Christmas term 1886 he passed the Cambridge local exam 3rd Class. By July 1887 he was in the upper Vth form and was placed 4th in the end of year placings and the following year in the Upper Vth was 1st of 13. In 1889 he won the School Scholarship and then the Watts Prize in 1890 for physical science, a prize awarded in memory of Thomas Watts to boys who did best in terminal exams in forms working on scientific subjects. He matriculated 1st Class in January 1890 and became a School Prefect. In 1891 he took the Sterry Divinity Prize and in the Easter term the Harvey Owen Scholarship worth £50 a year for 4 years given to a boy, usually a Foundationer or orphan, at one of the Universities. Although HB was not an orphan in the true sense, although his mother had died before he entered the College, the College no doubt felt he was a worthy winner. He also won the Gardiner Prize and the Anstie Memorial Scholarship founded that year by Mrs Anstie in memory of her late husband and son, both doctors. It was to be awarded by the Trustees to a boy entering Oxford or Cambridge, preference always to be given to orphan sons of medical men and was valued at £40 a year for 4 years (£4,600 in 2015). In 1898, some years after he had left Epsom, the College recorded that HB had passed the competitive exam for the Indian Medical Service (IMS) and had taken 7th place in the list.

He left Epsom in July 1891 and went up to Clare College Cambridge where he took BA (Cantab.) 1st Class Nat. Sci. Tripos in 1894 before going on with the Harvey Owen Scholarship1,2 from Epsom to St Bartholomew’s Hospital to complete his medical studies. He qualified with the Conjoint diploma in 1897 finally taking his degrees M.B., B.Ch. Cantab. in 1905 and the D.P.H. (London) six years later.
It seems likely that he was keen to join the Army from an early age and the Boer War provided an excellent opportunity to join up. This would explain the gap between his date of qualifying as a doctor with a diploma and finally obtaining a medical degree. His military career had started whilst at the College where he joined the Rifle Corps, which had come into existence in 1889, in which he became a Lieutenant, the first to hold that rank in the newly established Corps. The Corps had been re-established in 1889 as a method of restoring esprit de corps in the College.

On 27th July 1898 HB was admitted to Her Majesty’s Indian Medical Service (IMS), in which he was to serve for the rest of his career, as a Surg/Lt (LG 26998 p5084). In 1901 (8) he found himself in East Africa as part of the Somali Levy force. The Levy was formed to break up and expel from the British Protectorate of Northern Somaliland, the Mullah Abdullah Hassan’s armed following who were raiding and harassing the tribes in the Protectorate. In the absence of the 2nd Battalion of the King’s African Rifles on duties elsewhere it was necessary to raise a local force and the Levy was formed in November 1900 (4).

In his despatch to the War Office in April 1904 the officer commanding the force, Lt/Colonel EJE Swayne, described the campaign and its successful outcome mentioning HB in the text (LG p2598).

“There being no water at Cour-Gerad we continued the march, at dawn of the 10th, down a steep ravine to the plain below, marching on a made road, possibly of Phoenician or Indian origin. We reached Eyl-Maado, our first watering place since Lasa Eyl-Birdale, some 80 miles back, at mid-day on the 18th. Here a halt of half a day was made in order to fill water tanks, and enable Lieutenant Boulton, Indian Medical Staff, to look after his wounded, and in order to reconnoitre Beretubhe, where a detached portion of the Mullah’s force, which had not taken part in the fight, was reported to be. The horsemen sent out by me, however, reported that the men had fled.”

At the end of the Despatch HB was formally recognised with a number of others as meriting special commendation and thus was Mentioned in Despatches (MID)5. He was awarded the Somaliland medal with clasp8.

“Lieutenant H Boulton, Indian Medical Service, had sole medical charge of an expedition which at one time, if we include transport, spearmen and others, consisted of 2500 men. He was assisted by no other medical officers and his work at Fardiddin, under fire, was heavy. He brought back the wounded some 340 miles to the coast, only losing one man.”

On 27th July 1901 he was promoted to Surg/Capt. IMS (LG 27369 p 6984).

Hart’s Army list of 1908 records him as being ‘on furlough’ from the 31 Punjabis in the Punjab Command and confirms the dates of his joining the IMS and later promotion to Surg/Capt. as noted above. During this time he wrote ‘A Handbook for Officers of IMS in Military Employ’8. In January 1910 he was promoted from Captain to Major (LG 28362 p3073).

In 1912 he married Maude Mary Garton in Bombay Cathedral. They were to have two daughters, the oldest of whom, Daphne (1913-2005) maintained the military medical tradition by marrying an army doctor, Colonel John J O’Dwyer, whose name is found on the probate records of both his parents-in-law.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 HB left India for France with the 7th (Meerut) Division where he served in the HQ as a Major and D.A.D.M.S2, disembarking in France on the 12th October 1914 (6). In due course after the war following notification by the Joint Secretary of the military department of the India Office he was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp and Roses having joined the B.E.F. in 1914, thus becoming one of ‘The Old Contemptibles’ as these early combatants became known.

In 1915 he was twice mentioned in despatches in June (LG 29200 p6014) and October (LG29422 p76) by Field Marshal Sir John French, C in C of the British Forces, for his ‘gallant and distinguished service in the field’ with the Meerut Division.

In January 1916 he was promoted to Brevet Lt/Colonel (LG 29438 p569) when the 7th Meerut Division moved to Mesopotamia (Iraq) together with the 3rd (Lahore) and 13th (Western) Divisions to build up the allied forces which were struggling against the Turks besieging the town of Kut al Amara. The arrival of these experienced Divisions from the Western front and Gallipoli considerably strengthened the British force (7). In October HB was MID (LG 29789 p 10048) for a fourth time by Lieut-General Sir Percy Lake, the General in command of the Indian Expeditionary Force “D” in Basrah Mesopotamia, in a despatch to the C.I.G.S. India that year.

In January 1918 he was promoted to Lt-Col. From July 1919 until December 1920 he held the rank of Actg. Colonel whilst serving as A.D.M.S., Line of Communication, East Persia (LG 31449 p8861) which covered Afghanistan and the NW Frontier and was again MID8 (LG 32002 p8066). In April 1919 disturbances broke out on the North West Frontier of India bordering Afghanistan. The forces available to quell these risings had been depleted by the war in Europe and after the armistice in November 1918 the soldiers were expected to be demobilised. However it was necessary to call upon those who had been serving in East Persia and to recall a large number of Indian troops who had been sent on leave. The medical services faced particular difficulties due to a severe outbreak of cholera in the civil population and particularly high temperatures in the region that summer9. For his services with the IMS in Afghanistan HB was appointed C.B.E.2

He relinquished the acting rank and was promoted to the substantive rank of Colonel in 1925 (LG 3305 p3794). In June 1928 whilst serving as ADMS in the Deccan District of India he was appointed CB in The King’s Birthday Honours (LG 33390 p3848) and shortly after this in July was promoted to Major-General (LG 33421 p6034). He continued to work in India, and assumed
duties as Director of Medical services in the Northern Command until 1932 (2). At this time he held the appointment of Honorary Surgeon to the Viceroy of India (VHS). He went on to be appointed Honorary Surgeon to King George V in October 1930 (LG 33709 p2578) a post he held until his retirement in July 1932.

He retired to Hampshire where he died in Fleet Hospital near Aldershot on 30 Nov 1955 age 83. His widow Maude died on 20 September 1959, also in Fleet, age 82.

Sources:
1 Epsom College Register 1855-1954. & Yellow Books.
3 EC Archive. Alan Scadding; personal communication.
4 Despatch Lt/Col. EJE Swayne Commanding Somali Levy: LG 27426 p2589-2597.
5 MID – Mentioned in Despatches.
6 Medal Roll Index
7 The Long, Long Trail (LLT)
9 General Sir Charles Monro C in C India LG 15 Mar 1920 Issue 31823 p3271-3286

London Gazette (LG)

Ancestry.

Boulton, Montague Barnard

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Boulton, Montague Barnard, s. of dr. Arthur Boulton of Horncastle, b. 1895, L.S. and G., l. 1912, occupation unknown, T/Lt. 4th Res. Regt. of Cavalry 1914-18

Bourne, William

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Boxall, Norman Jesse

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Boycott, Richard Gordon

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Lieut (S.R.) S. Staffs Regt. 1914-18
House: HMM? □
Rank

Boyne, Lytton Leonard

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Regiment: Capt. (S.R.) Royal Sussex Regt. 1914-18
House: HMM? □
Rank

Boys, Julius Claude

Birth Year: 1883
Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: T./Lt. R.A.O.C. 1914-18
House: HMM? □
Rank

Bracey, William Edelsten

Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1882
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: HMM? □
Rank
Bracey, William Edelsten, s. of dr. W. A. Bracey of Birmingham, b. 1873, F. !• 1889- Queen's Coll. and Mason's Coll., B'ham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.F.P.S. (Glas.), T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 195

Epsom College: 1882-1889
WILLIAM EDELSTEN bracey (1873-1952). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.F.P.S. (Glas.) Ey (1873-1952) [Epsom College 1882-1889] was the son of Dr W. A. Bracey, of Birmingham. He won the Sydenham Scholarship to Queen's College and Mason's College (Birmingham University), and afterwards went into general practice at Wedmore, Somerset. He was medical Officer of Health and Public Vaccinator for the No. 9 District of the Axbridge Union, and Public Vaccinator for the Axbridge District of the Wedmore Union, Somerset. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918) at Suvla Bay and in Mesopotamia.

Bracey, William Edelsten (1873-1952).

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Bradford, Brig.-Gen. Roland Boys

| Birth Year: | 1892 | Entered Epsom College: | 1907 |
| Rank: | Brig-Gen |

**Bradford, Roland Boys**

**Died 30/11/17 aged 25**

**Buried Hermies British Cemetery, France**

**Reference: F. 10.**

**BRIGADIER-GENERAL ROLAND BOYS BRADFORD (1892-1917). VC, MC. – THE YOUNGEST RECIPIENT OF THE VICTORIA CROSS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR.**

“I knew Bradford quite well... He was an officer of outstanding talent and personality... The example of his unselfish courage and devotion to duty, is in my opinion, very worthy of being kept in continual remembrance by a nation he died to serve. Field Marshal Earl Haig (1918).

In 1950, Brigadier Desmond Young recalled his meeting with Roland Bradford, some thirty years earlier. “In all armies there is a small minority of professional soldiers (and a few amateurs) who find in war the one occupation to which they are perfectly adapted. Year by year, in the In Memoriam column of The Times, my eye catches the name of Brigadier-General “Boy” Bradford, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., killed in the Cambrai battle in 1917 at the age of 24, and I remember riding over, unduly conspicuous, I felt, on a white horse, to his brigade headquarters in front of Bourlon Wood and thinking, as I talked to him, that here was someone at last who knew his trade and was equal to any demands that war might make.”

Roland Boys Bradford was born on 23 February, 1892, at Carwood House, Witton Park, Bishop Auckland, the fourth son of George and Amy Bradford. His father was a mining engineer and colliery owner who could not have known that his four sons, who came to be known as ‘The Fighting Bradfords,’ would later capture the public imagination with their achievements on the field of battle that became legendary. During the First World War, Roland and George Bradford were the only brothers to win the Victoria Cross, the greatest wartime honour, while James and Thomas were awarded the MC and DSO respectively. Thomas, later Sir Thomas Bradford, DSO, Durham Light Infantry, became honorary treasurer of Durham University and Deputy Lieutenant of County Durham in 1907. At the age of fourteen Roland Bradford entered Epsom College. It was said that his main interests were outside the classroom, being the sports field and the Officer Training Corps. He was a good Rugby player, gaining his First XV colours and capturing the Carr House XV at half back. As a keen member of the Cadets, he achieved the rank of Lance Corporal and section leader. His housemaster, Herbert Lee, who was the officer in charge of the Officer Training Corps recalled: “I remember him as a bright dark-eyed boy. He was never very prominent at work & left us in the Matriculation Form. He was keen on fun & not above a practical joke... but he was never a troublesome boy.” At the age of 18 Roland Bradford joined the 5th Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry and at the outbreak of the First World War served as a Second Lieutenant. He quickly distinguished himself as an Officer and in February 1915 won the Military Cross leading an attack on Armentières. One year later he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel and given command of his own battalion (9th Durham Light Infantry, 151st Brigade), and during the next sixteen months, he turned this Battalion into one of the finest fighting units in the British Army and showed that he was capable of even greater success.”
On the 1st October, the 50th Division of the Durham Light Infantry was ordered to capture Eaucourt l’Abbaye and the trenches east of Le Sars, on the Somme. ‘The assault was timed for 3.15 pm and was to be led on the right by the 6th Battalion DLI with the 9th DLI close behind in support. As the Durhams waited in their trenches for the attack to begin, they came under heavy German artillery and machine gun fire and Major Wilkinson, commanding 6th Battalion DLI, was badly wounded in the arm. As he was going back to the casualty clearing station, he met Roland Bradford and asked him to take command of the Battalion. The 6th Durham Light Infantry came under withering machine-gun fire, as the Division on their right had been unable to get into position on time. The attack ground to a halt as men desperately sought cover in shell holes from the flying bullets. At that critical moment Roland Bradford arrived. Ignoring the dangers, he immediately went amongst the soldiers, encouraging, organising, and giving new, clear orders. ‘By his fearless energy under fire of all description, and his skilful leadership of the two Battalions, regardless of all danger, he succeeded in rallying the attack, captured and defended the objective, and so secured the flank.’ He was awarded the Victoria Cross on 25th November, 1916, the citation in the London Gazette reading – ‘For most conspicuous bravery and good leadership in attack.’ The presentation was delayed, however, as he was said to be ‘too busy to go home. He had a Battalion to run,’ but he was finally presented with his Victoria Cross by King George V during an open air ceremony in Hyde Park on 2nd June, 1917. Four months later he was promoted to Brigadier General, the youngest General to serve in the Great War, and given command of the 186th Brigade of the 62nd (West Riding) Division.

Roland Bradford was killed in action just three weeks after gaining his promotion. He was involved in the attack on the Hindenburg Line and during the Battle of Cambrai on 30th November, 1917, was killed by a stray German shell near his Brigade Headquarters in Bourlon Wood. He was buried in the Hermies British Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais. He was just twenty-five years old. At his funeral, his favourite hymn, “Abide with me,” was played and then adopted by the Durham Light Infantry as their Regimental hymn.

What was Roland Bradford like? In 1912, the Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel F. G. Maughan wrote: ‘From the day that Bradford joined the Battalion, I was conscious of his strong personality, and I think that others received the same impression....From the beginning he was all keenness and enthusiasm in the right direction. He was ready to turn his hand to anything no matter how unfamiliar the task might be, and he would set to work with a calmness and often an originality of thought which brought success when older man did not expect that he would do more than make a good attempt. Newly-joined subalterns were encouraged to keep a horse and to hunt. Bradford took to hunting with enthusiasm and was ever ready to learn all he could. The result showed itself at Lichfield in the spring of 1914. as the hunting season drew to an end, and without seeking advice, he bought a horse and entered it at the local point-to-point meeting, and though he had no previous experience of riding in a point-to-point, he won a fine race and in good company....His activities were not confined to pursuits which appealed naturally to an athletic lad of twenty. He occasionally wrote short stories, the theme generally being some incident in the hunting field. He was also in great demand at concerts, at which he told amusing stories with much gravity, and was one of the very few officers who used to read the lesson in the Garrison Church at Lichfield....He had a high sense of honour, readiness to accept responsibility, an alert mind and rapidity in making decisions. I do not think that anyone who knew him in peace was surprised that he succeeded in war, even to the height that he attained.’ John Buchan, author of The Thirty-Nine Steps wrote that: ‘...in the long roll of the young dead Roland Bradford is in some ways the most conspicuous figure.’

Major General Walter Braithwaite, commanding the 62nd Division thought that Roland Bradford was ‘a very exceptional man, though only a boy, and might have risen, in fact would have risen, to any height in his profession. His power of command was quite extraordinary....He had extraordinary personality, and that personality, linked with his undoubted military genius, made him a very extraordinary character, and a very valuable commander of men.’

Roderick Bailey: Forgotten Voices of the Victoria Cross - Ebury Press 2010

**Lieutenant Colonel Roland Bradford MC**

9th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry.

One of the only pair of brothers to receive the Victoria Cross during, Lieutenant Colonel Roland Bradford was awarded his VC for his actions in securing the flank of his division during an attack on the Somme on 1 October 1916 at Eaucourt l’Abbaye, France. As his citation explains:

Lieutenant Colonel Roland Bradford VC MC.

A leading Battalion having suffered very severe casualties, and the Commander wounded, its flank became dangerously exposed at close quarters to the enemy* Raked by machine-gun fire, the situation of the Battalion was critical. At the request of the wounded Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Bradford asked permission to command the exposed Battalion in addition to his own. Permission granted, he at once proceeded to the foremost lines. By his fearless energy under fire of all description, and his skilful leadership of the two Battalions, regardless of all danger, he succeeded in rallying the attack, captured and defended the objective, and so secured the flank.

Recognised as an outstanding commander, Bradford was promoted to the rank of brigadier in November 1917 when he was still only twenty five, making him the youngest general officer in the British Army. He was killed ten days later, on 30 November, at Cambrai, France.

Born in February 1892 and educated at Epsom College, Roland Bradford had joined the Durham Light Infantry (DLI) in 1912 and gone to France with the 2nd Battalion in 1914* He received a Military Cross for leading an attack later that year at Armentieres. His brother, Lieutenant Commander George Nicholson Bradford, was posthumously awarded a Victoria Cross for his actions during the British naval raid on Zeebrugge in April 1918.

Charles Gee, whose memories of serving under Roland Bradford after he had earned his VC were recorded in 1994, fought with
always so many officers were drinking so much whisky, really had to drink. I y: it's I can'torry in its y where's ugh playing about with rifles and real ammunition, not sham, so it would come easy and it didn't worry him at all if the occasion He was enormously careful with his men's lives. He wasn't careful when we were out of the line, training; he wanted everybody refuse his own leave, he did refuse leave, but they ordered him to go to get his medal. A man speaking to him very rudely, Bradford went on arguing and arguing, but nothing happened about it. He even tried to criticism. The men's leave was scandalous, it said, and the men were getting into a state and it was unfair and officers shou He tried to make the men's leave better. The men had been out two years without leave; officers got leave every six months. I He could tick people off. He ticked me off enough. I can't remember making any serious mistakes but I got ticked off an awful lot. He was jolly rude. Very rude, often. I think if he was cross about something he probably took it out on me — I can't remember any mistakes. He'd say, 'I don't know what your mother would think of you,' and so on. A new man came in while Bradford was there and Bradford said, 'You're a fine chap and you're coming into this marvellous battalion,' and so on, gave him enormous praise, and then looked at him for a long time and said, 'You deserted from the second battalion two years ago.' He'd recognised him. And then he gave him such a ticking off. I told Bradford later that he'd deserted again and he said, 'I'd wanted him to.' He ticked me off once or twice quite savagely but with this deserter he was really frightening: I'll shoot you with my own hand' that sort of thing. Very aggressive, very frightening, he could be. Wasn't normally. I think it came out of his zest for perfection: he wanted to frighten the person. He was tall and good-looking and very fit and assured. He wore a different uniform from anybody. He never wore a Sam Browne that I saw; he wore a specially designed leather belt with two straps down the front. He got arrested for it once in London, on leave, but on the way to the War Office he found fault with the man taking him and said he'd arrest him so he got away with it. He wanted to be different, I think. And I think, really, looking back on it, he wanted to be a corps commander; I think he realised that he had the ability, that he was conscious of that. He told me that if he was a corps commander he'd ca...
bullet hit somebody. I remember somebody saying — not quite true — that we had more casualties in training than we had in the line, but it was very nearly true.

He knew what fear was. He taught us all to get down even if a shell landed a hundred yards away. It wasn't bravado; it was teaching the men to save their lives, to live to fight. But if it were necessary to, when people were frightened, he would stand, take risks, to get the situation right.

He would be unpopular, but in the line he ceased to be. He would go up to the line and he frequently didn't come back till suppertime: he sort of lived with the men. One particular time he came back and said that such-and-such a portion of the line was having trouble because the Germans were putting one or two shells over. He said, 'I've told the men exactly what to do, because I think there's going to be a raid.' Well, there was a raid, exactly as he prophesied, and he sent me round the next day and the men were absolutely astonished by what the colonel had said. 'He knew exactly what the Germans would do,' they said. 'He always knows what's happening and he's always right.'

I remember, early on, getting a wire that the enemy was massing for an attack opposite, and I said, 'Should I send that around to the companies?' He thought a bit and he said, 'No, I've been round there and I'm quite happy. The sentries are there; everything's all right. No panic at all.' And of course we weren't attacked.

Some men would talk well and so they became sort of favourites and they knew the colonel's mind more than the officers did, so we sometimes got information from them about what the colonel was planning or doing. Bradford and the men were in very close touch and the officers were bullied along to be adequate.

I think I had a bad company commander when I was in the company because I don't remember him taking me round the men or introducing me or anything: I don't think he worried. But Bradford knew all the men as far as was possible. Literally, he'd know them by name and they would know him.

The night the colonel was wounded, I went in and found him mopping his face: a wound. He'd been talking to a company commander up in the front and the company commander had got up and a bullet hit his helmet and a piece of the helmet got chipped off and hit the colonel somewhere in the side of the face. And I think it was the same day this message came that he was to be sent away to command a brigade, and I took the message into him. He said, 'I don't want to go.' I said, 'Read it again. It's an order, not "Do you want to... ?"' He was very sad. I suppose half of him must have been delighted to have been promoted because he obviously was fit for it and trained for it and he'd commanded the brigade several times: he'd got his VC when he was commanding two battalions at least.

We were moved to that division the next year and my impression is that various senior officers, such as brigadiers in charge of gunnery, were so impressed by his knowledge of gunnery that they wanted to resign their jobs and serve under him in any capacity he'd have them. That's the story I was told.

He was killed by a casual shell somewhere. They must have retired a good bit by then, I think, and he went out after dark to somewhere not far away and he was found dead. And I think his watch and things had been stolen; somebody had stolen them.

A tragedy, an awful pity. I think I was one of the people who sort of worshipped him. My wife was going to call our son Roland, if we'd had one.

Roland Bradford
The card Bradford had printed for his men

Roland Bradford as Brigadier

Roland Bradford's headstone in Hermies British Cemetery, France
### Brewer, Frederic Henry Wormald

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**Researcher:**

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

**Brewer, Frederic Henry Wormald (1881-?).**  
Epsom College: 1892-1899  
FREDERIC HENRY WORMALD BREWER (born 1881). L.M.S.S.A. [Epsom College 1892-1899. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr R.E. W. Brewer, of Newport, Monmouthshire, and brother of Major Herbert Reginald Brewer, R.M.L.I. [Epsom College 1895-1899]. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Brimpton Common, Reading, Berkshire. He was D.C.M.S. at the Ministry of Pensions. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C.

### Brewer, Henry Jeaffreson

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**Researcher:**

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Brewer, Henry Jeaffreson, brother of A. H. B. (1887), b. 1879, G., XV, l. 1898, St. Mary’s Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 194

OE Doctors

**Brewer, Henry Jeaffreson (1879-1947).**  
Epsom College: 1890-1898  
HENRY JEAFFRESON BREWER (1879-1947). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1890-1898. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr A. H. Brewer, of Dalston, North East London, and brother of Dr Alexander Hampton Brewer [Epsom College 1887-1893], Frederick Stanley Brewer [Epsom College 1894-1894]. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to St Mary’s Hospital, and later entered
general practice at Tonbridge, Kent. Sometime after this he joined a practice in the City of London. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918). He was a member of the Middlesex County Rugby XV.

Brewer, Maj. Herbert Reginald

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Researcher:


Bride, John Webster

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Researcher:

Bride, John Webster, s. of dr. John Bride of Wilmislow, b. 1883, W., XV, l. 1902, Manch. and Lond. UU., M.D., Ch.B. (Manch.); M.D., B.S. (Lond.); F.R.C.O.G., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; 23 Spath Road, Didsbury, Manchester

Bright, Lt.-Col. Harold Norman

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Researcher:


Bristow, Frank Anstie

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Researcher:

Bristow, Frederick Laurence

Entered Epsom College: 1899

Brodie, Cunningham

Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Pte London Scottish. Killed in action 1916

Brodie, Cunningham Private 5303
1/14 London Regiment (London Scottish)
Died 9 Sept 1916
Cunningham was the only son of Dr James Brodie and his wife Christina Wiseman nee Cunningham. He was born in London on 5 September 1895 London (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Marylebone 1a 570). His father had practised medicine in Edgeware Road, London and in Fort Steele, British Columbia. He had been engaged by Dr Hugh Watt to help provide medical services needed during the construction of the railway in 1896 through Crow’s Nest Pass on the border of Alberta and British Columbia. Dr Brodie ran the Cranbrook Surgery to attend railroad cases that occurred to the west.
On 26 May 1900 Cunningham sailed from UK to Canada on the ship Buenos Ayrean destined for Collingwood East, Montreal with his mother and sisters Chrissie aged 5 and Isobel aged 2. In 1901 the family was living in Yale and Caribou in British Colombia. James Brodie MD, LRCP.Ed, LRCS.Ed, and LFPS Glasgow died at Fort Steele on 13 December 1902. It was likely that his health had been affected a few years earlier by attending a patient when not well himself. He left his widow and four children (another child had been born but their name is not known) with hardly any means of income other than a voluntary allowance from relatives.
In 1905 Cunningham’s mother started the process of applying for a Foundation Scholarship at Epsom College for son, which he was awarded. This meant that he was entitled to a funded place. He started at the school on 19 September 1907 in Fayrer House in the Lower School and moved on to Carr House in the Senior School. When his mother registered him for the school she gave her address as 19 Panmore Street, Brechin, Northumberland. He was not initially an academic boy coming 23 out of 23 pupils in the Lower III, but he must have worked hard because he was able to gradually improve his position each year achieving 2nd place out of 21 pupils in 1911 and ended his school days 9th out of 24 pupils on the Modern side. On leaving school in 1912 he became an engineering student.
He enlisted in London into the London Regiment 14th County of London (London Scottish) Bn. This was a kilted regiment and during the war a khaki apron was issued to cover the kilt. He was killed fighting on the Somme. No service records have survived but the London Scottish was the senior battalion within 168 Brigade. On 9 September 1916 they were engaged in the Battle of Ginchy, part of the Somme offensive that went on until 18 Nov 1916. They moved forward to support trenches at the rear of Leuze Wood on the Wedge Wood-Ginchy Road. The attack under darkness focussed on the Leuze Wood-Quadrilateral Line. They reached their objective to the south-east of the trench system known as the Quadrilateral.
At the time of his death, his widowed mother was still living at 13 Panmore St, Brechin, Northumberland. The CWGC recorded her as living at Craigie House Nursing home Ferry Road, Dundee when it establishing its records.
Cunningham is remembered on the Thiepval memorial to the missing on the Somme, Panels 9c and 13c. There is also a bronze and oak memorial tablet in the West UF Church in Brechin on which his name is recorded with 16 others from the parish who
gave their lives.

Sources
CWGC
Census-Canadian 1901, UK 1911
Dundee Courier
Epsom college Register, Yellow book and Foundation applications
Free BMD
Soldiers died
No military records found including medal card

Brodrick-English, James Falconer

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<th>Rank: LCpl</th>
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Researchers: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

BRODRICK-ENGLISH James Falconar Lance Corporal 240234
1/5(Territorial) bn Seaforth Highlanders Machine Gun section
Died 21 April 1917 age 25

James was born on 26 Feb 1892 at Lowdale Hall, Sleights, Yorkshire. He was the son of Arthur English and his wife Mary who was the elder daughter of the Rev John Barry Brodrick, Rector of Sneaton near Whitby in Yorkshire.

In the 1891 census Arthur and Mary Ann were living at Lowdale Hall, Sleights in Yorkshire. Arthur was a solicitor. They had two daughters, Mariann aged 2 and Frances aged 1 month. They employed a cook, 2 house servants and a sick nurse. James was born there the following year. Arthur died on 3 Nov 1898.

In 1901 9 year old James was at Bamcote School, Scarborough. His widowed mother and 6 year old sister Janet Sharp English were living at Sleights, Eskadakeside cum Ugglebarnaby, Yorkshire North Riding. His mother was working as an Insurance Agent.

On 18 January 1907 James entered Epsom College Senior School, Wilson House. His mother’s address was recorded as c/o Mrs HB Drew, Fashoda, Scarborough. James did not show much interest in academic work, usually coming bottom of his year. However, he passed his Lower Certificate and gained a first class pass in Additional Maths. He was a good athlete and on Sports Day in April 1910 he came first in the Open Quarter mile, second in the Open Mile, and equal second in the Senior Half mile races. He left in the summer of that year.

He then got a job on the staff of National and Provincial Bank, Middlesborough. In 1911 James was working as a banker’s clerk, and living with his 58 year old, widowed mother and sister Janet in an eight roomed house at Sleights, Eskadakeside cum Ugglebarnaby, Yorkshire North Riding.

On 14 Sept 1914 he joined Seaforth Highlanders, initially as private 868, then as Lance Corporal 240234. He was later offered a commission but refused to take it.

In the opening day of battle of Arras, Easter Monday, 9 April 1917 the 6th battalion of Seaforth Highlanders was to be involved from the off. They were tasked with capturing three lines of German trenches facing northeast of the small village of Roclincourt. They would then consolidate these whilst the 1/5th Seaforths passed through them in the ‘leap-frog’ system to take the next two lines.

James was seriously wounded in this operation on 9 April and transported back to Camiers, the base depot of the Machine Gun Corps in France. Here he died on 21 April before he could be evacuated back to Britain. He is buried in the military cemetery at Etaples grave XI.X. F3. He was awarded 1915 star and the Victory and British medals.

His Captain wrote “He was an exceedingly fine fellow diligent, cheerful and very efficient. This latter point I cannot bring out too thoroughly. He was one of those men who will be sadly missed by all those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance”.

He is remembered on the memorial in St Hilda’s Church, Sneaton

Sources:
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC Y
De Ruvigny Y
Epsom Register Y
Epsom Yellow Book Y
Free BMD Y
Probate
Soldiers died
Times/Newspaper Y 30 Apr
TNA Service papers not found

Wilson House War Memorial

Lowdale Hall, Sleights, Eskadakeside cum Ugglebarnaby, Yorkshire North Riding.

Picture 2010
Brooke, Arthur Francis

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: Lt. 10th Hussars
House: HMM?
Rank: Decorations:
Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Brooke, Arthur Francis, s. of Sir A. D. Brooke Bt. of Colebrooke, b. 1896, W., l. 1913, sometime Lieut, 20th Hussars and Sqdn. Ldr. R.A.F., d. 1949

Brooke, Frederick Arthur John Robertson

Birth Year: 1863
Entered Epsom College: 1876
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: -
Rank: Capt
Decorations:
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

BROOKE, Frederick Arthur John Robertson, Capt RAMC MO
attached 1 Bn Wiltshire regiment
KIA 27 May 1918.

Frederick was born on 31 March 1863 in Caxton, Cambs (GRO ref: June 1863 Caxton 3b 471) but baptised in Camden Town on 26 June 1863. His parents, Thomas George Brooke, and his wife Annie Adelaide nee Jefferson had married in 1859 (note the GRO entry is for Thomas George Brook/Ann Adelaide Jefferson Sep 1859 Pancras 1b 47) and were living at 4 Devonshire Terrace, Camden Town. Thomas was a surgeon.

In 1871 Frederick aged 8 and his four year old sister Dora were staying with an uncle at 35 Camden Road, St Pancras. Frederick’s father registered him to start at Epsom College in September 1876. By that time the family was living at Langport in Somerset. Frederick was joined by his brother Tom Balleny Brooke in 1877. The school offered a small reduction in fees of £5 5s a year for boys who had a brother at the school.

The 1881 census recorded him at Epsom College and his family at Cheapside, Langport, Somerset. Thomas had been a surgeon but was recorded as working as a general practitioner. At this time doctors often combined their skills. Annie was 47. Frederick had three sisters living with his parents: Evelyn aged 20, Dora 13 and Florence 10.

Frederick left Epsom in April 1881 and studied medicine at the London Hospital. In 1891 28 year old Frederick was working as a medical assistant in Derbyshire and boarding at Milford Road, Duffield, Derbyshire. He took the MRCS and LRCP diplomas.
successfully in 1894.
He married Constance Blanche Moore in 1895 (GRO ref: Dec 1895 Belper 7b 1141), and fathered seven children: Nora 1899, Sylvia 1901, Dorothy 1903, Cecil 1907, Olive 1908, Margaret 1910 and one other whose name I have been unable to find. In the 1901 census Frederick, a surgeon, and his 2 year old daughter Norah were recorded visiting a family at St Helens, Grange Road, Eastbourne. Constance, Cecil, Olive and Margaret were visiting a Mrs Payne at 101 the Grange, Cheshunt.
At the time of Dorothy's baptism in September 1903 the family was living at 18 Cambridge Terrace, Paddington. In 1911 Constance was visiting the Dobson sisters in Paignton. Frederick was living in an 11 roomed house, Charnwood, Buckhurst Hill, Essex where he was working as a locum surgeon. His son John aged 1 and daughter Barbara also 1 were recorded with him and he employed a servant and a nurse.
He took a temporary commission in the RAMC on 10 July 1916 and served as a physician to the Tidworth Military Hospital before going to France. He was promoted to captain after a year's service. At the age of 53 he was outside the parameters of the Derby Scheme of conscription and must have volunteered to “do his bit”.

On 24 April 1917 Frederick and Constance lost their son Cecil Rupert Brooke who was serving a Lieutenant in 5/8 Gordon Highlanders and was killed in France.
A year later the war struck the family again when Frederick was killed on 27 May 1918. He is remembered on the Soissons memorial, Aisne, France. At the end of April 1918 5 Divisions of Commonwealth forces were posted to the French 6th army in this area to rest and refit following German offensives on the Somme and Lys. But at the end of May they found themselves facing overwhelming German attack which pushed them back across the Aisne to the Marne. The Soissons memorial commemorates the 4000 officers and men who were killed during the battles of Aisne and Marne in 1918 but have no known grave. Frederick was one of these and his name appeared in the casualty list published on 10 June 1918.
Probate was granted to his widow Constance and brother Tom Balleny Brooke, surgeon. His estate was valued at £300 3s 5d.
His address was given as Charlbury, Oxfordshire.
Sources
British Medical Journal BMJ
Census
Epsom biographies Index
Epsom College register m/s and printed.
Free BMD
Soldiers Died
Times11 June 1918
TNA file-nil

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

OE Doctors

Brown, Col. Hubert Horan

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: Col. I.M.S. Desp (3), Order of the Nile

Brown, Frederick Nathaniel

Birth Year: 1885
Entered Epsom College: 1879
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Brown, Frederick Nathaniel (1863-1934).
Epsom College: 1879-1881
FREDERICK NATHANIEL BROWN (1863-1934). M.B. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), L.M. (Dublin) [Epsom College 1879-1881 Watts Science Prize] was the son of Edward Brown, East India Merchant, of Wandsworth, South London. He won a Science Exhibition to St Bartholomew’s Hospital, and took 1st Class Honours in the M.B. Examination. He went into general practice at Frimley Green, Surrey. During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918).

Brown, James Leach

Birth Year: 1899
Enter Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.E. 1914-18


Brown, James Leach (1899-1958).
Epsom College: 1911-1917
JAMES LEACH BROWN (1899-1958). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), L.M. (Dublin) [Epsom College 1911-1917. prefect. Captain of Rugby XV. Brande Prize] was the son of Dr J. H. Brown, of Sheffield, and brother of John Castle Brown [Epsom College 1906-1912]. He received his medical education at King’s College Hospital, and went into general practice at Hounslow, Middlesex. He was at one time Resident Medical Officer at the British Hospital, Port Said, Egypt. During the First World War he served as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers (1914-1918)

Brown, John Castle

Birth Year: 1894
Enter Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Capt. M.G.C. 1914-18


Brownfield, Surg. Rear-Admiral Owen Deane

Birth Year: 1894
Enter Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: Surg. Rear-Admiral R.N.

Buchan, Brig. David Adye

**Birth Year:** 1890
**Entered Epsom College:** 1901
**House:** HMM?
**Rank:** Brig. R.A.

**Regiment:**

**Decorations:** D.S.O.

**Researcher:** Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

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David Adye Buchan (DAB) was born in Plymouth in 1890 (GRO 5b 287) the first son of Dr William Augustus Buchan (1860-1898) of Plymouth and his wife Beatrice Caroline Bather (1857-1933). A second son, Henry, born in 1897 died in infancy aged 2. Dr William Buchan died young when only 38 and in 1902 his widow remarried Lt Colonel RVK Applin OBE DSO (1870-1957) of the 14th Hussars. She died in Edmonton, London in 1933.

The Buchan family record (Ancestry) gives details of a strong military tradition and the origin of the unusual middle name. Matters are complicated by the tradition in the family of naming sons after their fathers. Captain David Buchan RN (1778-1838), the great-grandfather of DAB, married in 1801 in Portugal, Mary Adye, daughter of an army Major and sister of Major-General Stephen Galway Adye (1772-1838) and they named one of their sons David Adye. Captain Buchan was drowned at sea when the East Indiaman, Upton Castle, sank on route from Calcutta to England in 1838. His son, the grandfather of DAB, Captain David Adye Buchan (1812-1889) married twice. After the death of his first wife he married in 1852 Elizabeth Amelia Noakes (1818-1877) and DAB’s father was a son of this marriage. In due course Dr William’s first born DAB, the subject of this short biography, was named David Adye (1890-1950) and in 1917 his only son was also named David Adye (1917-1941) thus adding to the confusion.

In 1901 DAB’s mother, by then a widow, entered him at the College and he joined Granville House. He started in the Lower School in Lower Middle 1 where he came 2nd in form. He was clearly a distinguished scholar moving up to Middle Fourth where he came 6th in class winning the Carr Divinity prize. In 1904 he won the Junior School Scholarship from the Shell form receiving an honourable mention for English. In the Lower Vth in 1905 he passed the Oxford & Cambridge Schools examination with 3 firsts in advanced Maths, English and History. In the upper school on the classical side in the top set he came 6th of 19 boys and in 1907 passed the Higher Oxford & Cambridge certificate and was made a sub-prefect. He was a member of the Rugby XV and in 1908, his last year, he won the prestigious Martin Prize for maths coming 3rd of 16 boys in the Modern Sixth.

On leaving school he entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

On 27 October 1910 he passed out from Sandhurst as a 2/Lt in the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) (LG 28407 p5948). He was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1913 (LG 28739 p5235) and on 12th October 1914 he went to France with the B.E.F. with the 13th Brigade R.F.A. in the 7th (Merut) Division and in due course was to receive the 1914 Star with clasp and roses5. The 7th Division participated in the First Battle of Ypres suffering very heavy losses and after reinforcement they saw action at Neuve Chapelle, Aubers Ridge and Festubert. However in May 1915, possibly to allow him a period of respite, he was appointed adjutant of the London Brigade of the RFA Territorial Force with promotion to the temporary rank of Captain whilst serving as adjutant (LG 29312 p9661) and he remained in this post until November 1915 (LG 29404 p12553) when he relinquished his temporary rank and was restored to the establishment. He was promoted to Captain in June 2016 (LG 29678 p7324) and on 18th September the 22nd Brigade RFA war diary recorded that “Captain D.A. Buchan joined from 40th Division and posted to 35th Battery”. The 40th Division was a training Division in the early phase of the war which moved to France from its base in Woking and Pirbright at the beginning of June 1916 taking part then in the Battle of the Ancre, a phase of the Battles of the Somme (LIT).

The following month 35th Battery was attached to 49th Heavy Artillery Group as counter battery in the 7th Division3. In January 1917 he became Actg. Major on being placed in command of a battalion (LG 30003 p3068) and for a short while at this time he commanded the Brigade Ammunition Column (LG 30014 p3463). The Brigade was involved in heavy fighting throughout much of 1917 moving from Longueval and Devil’s Valley where it was when he joined it, to Ploegstreet, Beaumont Hamel, Bullecourt, and eventually Dickerbush before in November 1917 it was sent to Italy3.

In January 1917 DAB had married Phyllis May Peters and their only son was born on 22nd October 1917. He was named David Adye and in 1930 also went to Epsom College. In 1929 his parents had divorced and in 1930 his father remarried Phyllis M Jordan. The young David entered Granville and left in 1935 for Sandhurst where in due course he was commissioned in the Royal Tank Regt as a 2/Lt. He married Josephine Nickels in 1939 in Aldershot and in April 1941 transferred to the RAF as a pilot (LG 34840 p2557) being promoted to Flt/Lt in April 1941 (LG 35176 p3098) attached to 59 Squadron RAF. The Squadron was equipped with Blenheim bombers and at that time was involved in bombing Channel ports and carrying out anti-submarine patrols before, in July 1941, it became actively involved in attacking enemy shipping. Tragically however on 24th October 1941 the young pilot aged 24 and all his crew were killed whilst returning across the sea following action over Cherbourg. In July
1942 the Gazette announced the award of the DFC to Flt/Lt David Adye Buchan RA (deceased) with effect from 5th September 1941. He was buried in Cherbourg Old Communal Cemetery, plot 6, row B, joint grave 6-72.

On 2nd Feb 1918 DAB now in Italy still serving with the 35th Battery in the 22nd Brigade of the 7th Division at Caselle, received a shell wound in his left upper arm. The battery had been heavily shelled, 40 rounds landing in its vicinity. “Major Buchan, 2/Lt Blake and 5 OR’s wounded (2 gassed)”. A fitter died of wounds shortly after. After spending 3 days at 39 Casualty Clearing Station and 23rd Field Ambulance in the field the 2 officers were transferred to No 18 Ambulance Train and presumably returned to England. In the Birthday Honours in June 1918 it was announced that Capt. (Acting Major), David Adye Buchan of the Royal Field Artillery had been awarded the D.S.O. There is no record in the war diary that DAB returned to Italy following his injury. At the end of the war the Brigade was at Piave and in December demobilisation had begun. By the end of January 1919 its strength was down to 687 men and demobilisation was continuing.

In July 1919 he relinquished his rank of Actg. Major on ceasing to command a Battery (LG 31496 p10164). He received the British War and Victory medals in addition to the 1914 Star mentioned above. Then in March 1921 he was re-appointed as an adjutant in the rank of Captain (LG 32363 p4900) a post he held until February 1924 (LG 32933 p3632). It seems that he remained on regimental duties until January 1927 when he was posted to the War Office as a G.S.O., 3rd Grade and was promoted to Major, serving there until August 1928.

Following his time on the Staff at the War Office he moved to the Territorial Army (TA) as DAA & QMG of the Lowland Division (LG 33417 p5770) remaining there until restored to the Establishment in December 1930 (LG 33680 p304). In April 1932 he was seconded to serve on the Staff in India where he acted as the D.A.A.G. until he returned again to the Establishment in April 1934 (LG 34049 p 3030).

In January 1937 he was promoted to Lt-Colonel (LG 34359 p266) and was again seconded to serve with the TA being placed in command of the 51st (Westmoreland & Cumberland Field Brigade Royal Artillery (LG 34370 p999). He commanded this TA unit until December 1938 when he vacated this position on returning to the RFA (LG 34584 p8305). In July 1940 he became full Colonel and on 10th August 1942 he retired (LG 35660 p3493) being granted the honorary rank of Brigadier (LG 35836 p5626). He died in Drogheda, Ireland age 60 in 1950.

Sources:

1 Epsom College Yellow Books & Register 1855-1905
2 Commonwealth War Grave Commission.
3 TNA WO 95/164/3/1-3
4 The National Archives (TNA): MH106/860
5 Medal Roll and Medal Roll Index.
7 Ancestry: Ireland Civil Registration Death Index 1864 -1958
8 General Registry Office (GRO)
9 London Gazette (LG)
10 Forces War Records
11 LLT - The Long, Long Trail website.

Buchanan, John Dyson Morehouse

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1891
House: HMM? 

Regiment: T/Capt. Tank Corps 1914-18
Rank 

Researcher:


Buck, George Dixon

Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1911
House: HMM? 

Decorations:

Decorations:
**Buck, George Dixon**


**Bull, Arthur Coulson**

Entered Epsom College: 1901

Regiment: T/Lt. London Regt. 1914-18

House: G

Rank

Decorations:

**Buncle, Ronald**

Entered Epsom College: 1908

Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.A. Accidentally killed 1915

House: G

Rank 2Lt

**Buncle, Ronald MacDonald**

2nd Lieut

3/1st Lowlands Bde RFA (T)

17 Oct 1915

Accidental death 17 Oct 1915

Ronald was born on 26 Feb 1896 in Folkestone, Kent (GRO ref: Mar 1886 Elham 2a 1006), the only son of Dr Alexander Buncle (1846-1925) and his wife Annie nee Bird (1846-1925).

In 1901 the family was living in Field House, Purston Jaglin, Purston cum South Featherstone, Lancashire. Ronald’s father was 54 and working as a surgeon, and his mother was 37. Although only 4 years old, Ronald had a German governess and the family had one other servant.

Ronald entered Epsom College on 17 September 1908 starting in the Lower School and progressing to Granville House in the Senior School. The 1911 census recorded Ronald at Epsom College. For the first two years he was a middle ranking student, but in his last year he came third out of 22 pupils in the Lower Fourth form. He took part in the College OTC.

He left Epsom College in April 1912, at the age of 16 to become a medical student at Edinburgh University where he passed his exams successfully in 1915. Whilst at Edinburgh he served in the University Battery OTC and then joined a territorial unit, the 3/1st Lowlands Bde Royal Horse and Field Artillery. He received his commission 22 Sept 1915.

He died in a riding accident when his horse bolted and tried to turn sharply on the road near Craiglockhart School where Ronald was quartered. The horse fell heavily throwing Ronald and kicked his head, fracturing his skull. He was taken to Craigleith Military Hospital where he died on 16 Oct 1915.

An Old Epsomian friend said “He should have made an ideal doctor for he was very kind and had a very nice manner admired by all his patients.”

He shares a memorial in Edinburgh (Grange) Cemetery with his parents, inscribed: “In loving memory of Ronald Macdonald Buncle 2nd Lieutenant 3/1st Lowland Brigade RFA who died 16th October 1915 of injuries from an accident, aged 19, only son of Dr Alexander Buncle of Purston, Pontefract, Yorkshire and of Annie the devoted wife of Dr Buncle who died 25th September 1920, also the above Dr Alexander Buncle who died at Folkestone 25th February 1925 aged 78.” There is a memorial window in St Thomas’ Church Purston, to the much loved Dr Alexander Buncle.

A Medal Index Card exists for him, but there is no indication of which medals his family would have received. It is likely to
have been the British War and victory medals.

Sources:
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian
Epsom register- Printed & m/s
Epsom Yellow Book
Free BMD
Medal card- none awarded
Evening Telegraph Obit
Scottish War Graves
Soldiers died
TNA file not found.

Ronald MacDonald Buncle

Buncombe, William Dewey


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

William Dewey (1863-1936).
Epsom College: 1874-1874
WILLIAM DEWEY BUNCOMBE (1863-1936). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1874-1874] was the son of C. H. Buncombe, F.R.C.S., of Bow Road, London. He received his medical education at the London Hospital, and was appointed Medical Superintendent of the City of London Infirmary, Bow Road. During the First World War he served as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the R.A.M.C. in charge of the City of London Military Hospital (1914-1918).

Burd, Lt.-Col. Edmund

Burd, Lt.-Col. I.A.
Burd, Lt.-Col. Edmund, I. A., s. of E. P. Burd, district auditor, of Epsom, b. 1880, D.B., l. 1892, d. 1927

Burlton, Edward Richard Jenks
Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A. 1914-18
Decorations: M.C.
House: HMM? □

Researcher:

Burney, Lt.-Col. Walter Henry Skardon
Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: Lt-Col. R.A.M.C.
Decorations:
House: HMM? □

Researcher:

Burt, Joseph Barnes
Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Decorations:
House: HMM? □

Researcher:

Burton, Air Commodore Hugh Leonard
Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C.
Decorations:
House: HMM? □

Researcher:

Joseph Barnes Burt (1880-1953) was the son of Dr J. K. Burt of Kendal, Cumbria. At Epsom College he won an Entrance Scholarship to University College Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C., in Mesopotamia 1917-1919. After the War he was a Research Scholar, working with the Committee Investigating Special Diseases at Cambridge University. He then specialised in Physical Medicine and was appointed Consultant Physician at the Devonshire Hospital, Buxton, and later as Consultant Physician at the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath (1935-1946). He was President of the Section of Physical Medicine, Royal Society of Medicine; Chairman of the International Society of Medical Hydrology; Vice-President of the Section of Physical Medicine, British Medical Association, and Chairman of the Bath Division of the British Medical Association 1932-1933
Burton, Air Commodore Hugh Leonard, s. of dr. L. W. Burton of Burton-on-Trent, b. 1887, C., Sterry and Carr D. Prs., l. 1905, King’s Coll. Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., D.P.M., formerly T/Capt. R.A.M.C.; Trevanna, Mevagissey

Burton, Air Commodore Hugh Leonard (1887- ?).

Epsom College: 1899-1906
AIR COMMODORE HUGH LEONARD BURTON (born 1887). K.H.P., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1899-1905. Sterry and Carr Prizes. Du Pasquier Scholarship] was the son of Dr L. W. Burton Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire. At Epsom College he was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to King’s College Hospital, where he won the Class Prizes for Surgery and Medicine. During the First World War he served with the R.A.M.C. in Belgium and France. He later joined the R.A.F. Medical Service and was promoted to the rank of Air Commodore. He was an Honorary Physician to H.M. the King. No further details found.

Bush, John Stafford

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1872
Regiment: Sgt. C.E.F. 1914-19

Bush, John Stafford, s. of W. M. Bush, physician, of Kensington, b. 1857, l. 1873, occupation unknown, Sgt. C.E.F. 1914-19

Bush, William Arthur

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Capt. R.E. 1916-18


Butcher, John Phillip Henry

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Lond. Regt. Killed in action 1916

Butcher, John Philip Henry

Died 22/05/16 aged 22
Buried Arras Memorial, France
Reference: Bay 10

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WarMemorialsSurnamesB.html#ButcherJPH

BUTCHER John Philip Henry, 2nd Lieutenant. 18th Battalion London Regiment (London Irish Rifles). Killed in Action 22 May 1916, aged 218

John Philip Henry Butcher was born at Balham on 3 June 1894 (GRO reference: Jun 1894 Wandsworth 1d 758) to Henry Albert and Clara Butcher (nee Gosling). John’s parents had married in the March 1885 quarter in the Fulham registration district. In
the 1891 census, before John was born, the family lived at 20, Farringdon Road, London. John's father, aged 39, was employed as a dairy manager. His mother was aged 37 and he had two older siblings, Evelyn aged 5 and Richard aged 10 months. The family employed two servants.

John Philip Henry Butcher And His Siblings:
Evelyn Maria Born: 1885 Camden Town Died: 1897 Ampthill, Beds
Richard Charles Born: 1890 London Died: 1970 Harrow, Middx
Kathleen Lilla Born: 1892 Putney Died: 1979 Brighton Married George Fuller, 1916 Epsom
John Philip Henry Born: 3 June 1894 Balham Died: 22 May 1916 France

The 1901 census shows the family living at 1, Falkland Grove, Dorking. John's father was described as a milk dairyman, employer. The family had two servants. By 1911 the family had moved to 'The Homestead', St Martins Avenue, Epsom. John's father was now a farmer, employer. The family were still employing two servants. John was student at Epsom College. He attested at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, SW, on 2 September 1914, as Private No. 2545 into the 18th Battalion London Regiment, a Territorial unit, having never previously served in any of the armed forces. He was 5 feet 11 inches tall, had a chest measurement of 33½ inches with an expansion of 3½ inches, had good vision and good physical development. He served as a Private for 326 days from 2 September 1914 to 24 June 1915, and after applying for a commission on 8 June 1915 was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant on 24 June 1915, and went to France on 2 January 1916. John's battalion was in the 141st Brigade, 47th Division.

In May 1916, just a few weeks before the start of the battle of the Somme, the 47th Division was holding the line in the Vimy sector near the village of Souchez. Here the Germans held the high ground and could fire easily at the British positions, and could move around their rear areas without being seen, protected by the ridge. In an attempt to gain the initiative, both sides tunnelled under each other's defences in order to place high explosives to destroy trenches and dug-outs. Probably because the British were winning the tunnelling war, the Germans launched an attack on 21 May 1916 in order to capture the entrances to the British tunnels. The German offensive began with a massive artillery bombardment, on a narrow but deep front, lasting several hours. The German infantry then attacked, taking the British front line trench and many prisoners. A British counter attack on 23 May was unsuccessful due to enemy artillery and machine gun fire. The decision was made to leave things as they stood here, in order to concentrate effort on the forthcoming Somme battle.

On 22 May 1916, 21 other ranks and two officers were killed in action, including John who has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras memorial to the missing.

The Epsom Advertiser dated 2 June 1916 printed the following: KILLED IN ACTION. - The sad intelligence has been received during the week by Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Butcher, of The Homestead, St Martins-Avenue, that their son had been killed in action in France. Lieut. J.P.H. Butcher , of the London Irish Regiment, who was only 21 years of age, had been in France since January, and quite recently was home on a short leave. The St Martin's church Roll of Honour states that: JOHN PHILIP HENRY BUTCHER, was killed in action at Vimy Ridge near Arras on 21st or 22nd May 1916. John was awarded the British War medal and the Victory medal.
CAHILL John Archibald Capt MC, 2 bn Royal Berkshire Regiment
16 Aug 1917

John Archibald Cahill, known as Archibald, was born on 2 Feb 1890 (GRO ref: Mar 1890 London 1a 4056), the son of Dr John and Lucy Cahill.

In 1891 the family was living at 12 Seville Street, London SW. John senior was 34 years old, a general practitioner and a FRCS. Lucy was 29. They had two children, Lucy Lilian who was 2 and Archibald who was 18. They employed 2 maids and a nurse.

In 1901 the family was at the same address, and Archibald had a younger sister, Mona, who was 7. Archibald was at St Anthony’s prep school, Eastbourne.

On 1 May 1902 Archibald entered Epsom College, initially in B House whilst in the III form and in Propert House when he moved into the Senior School. He was an able student, gaining 3 first class passes in his lower certificate in July 1905 and won the Junior Essay and Greek prizes. In 1906 he came top of the 24 pupils in Shell, a form in which the headmaster took particular interest in the students. He won the singing prize in 1906 and the Engledue Essay Prize in 1907. He left Epsom in 1907 after passing the London Matriculation exam in 1906. He went on to study law and worked as a solicitor’s article clerk at G&G Keith Solicitors, 18 Southampton Street, WC. He qualified as a solicitor in 1912.

He had been in the OTC at Epsom and joined the Artists Rifles in Jan 1907 before they became a unit in the territorial scheme and frequently represented the Corps in Territorial and Army fencing competitions. On 10 Apr 1908 he applied for the newly formed Territorial Force 20 Middlesex (Artists) Rifle Volunteers for a year and then re-engaged annually up until spring 1914. His territorial service included 2 weekly summer camps at Minster, Dover, Aldershot and Abergavenny.

He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 25 May 1909 and to Corporal no. 168 on 5 May 1910.

In 1914 he attested at Dukes Rd, Euston and joined the 28 County of London regiment. He embarked at Southampton 26 Oct 1914 and was with the British Expeditionary Force as Corporal no. 168 until 13 Feb 1915. He was then awarded a commission to be 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Bn Royal Berkshire Regiment, after 6 years 319 days military service.

On 10 Mar 1915 he was wounded again by shrapnel in his right arm during the attack on Neuve Chapelle. His father was given erroneous information that his condition was worse than it was and wrote to War Office to inform them that his son had been shipped back to England and was being treated at St Thomas’s hospital. He had visited his son twice and he was recovering although the prognosis for his arm was uncertain. A copy of his letter, courtesy TNA, is below.

Archibald was promoted to lieutenant in Oct 1915 and to Acting Captain in March 1917.

His battalion participated in the commencement of the first battle of the Somme 1 July 1916. His father received another telegram to inform him that Archibald had been wounded. Again he recovered and was able to return to active service. In March 1917 he was recommended for the military cross for his conspicuous gallantry in the field.

On 16 August 1917 he was killed at Zonnebeke in Belgium. His Colonel described his actions:

“He took command of his company and successfully repelled a strong enemy counter attack. He set a magnificent example to
his men. Your son Capt Cahill was killed in battle on August 17. He was killed instantaneously by shell fire whilst leading his company most gallantly. His death is regretted by all. His bravery was very great...He volunteered for every dangerous duty.” His father wrote seeking details and his place of interment. (copy of letter below courtesy TNA). Sadly there were none as there was no record of his body being recovered, neither could they trace any personal effects.

In his will he bequeathed all his jewellery, watches, trinkets and personal effects to be divided equally between his sisters Lucy and Mona. His estate was worth £2359 8s7d, which included stocks and shares valued at £2095 15s 2d. He also had cash in the London County and Westminster Bank at Albert Gate £67 2s 5d + £150 12s 2d. Cox &Co, the official shipping company for the military, had £28 4s9d, his personal effects worth £10, cash held by the War Office £5 19s and balance of pay £4 15s 1d

He is remembered on the Tyne Cot memorial, Panel 105-106 and 162. He was awarded the British and Victory medals and his father applied successfully for the 1914 star to which his son had been entitled.

The following announcement appeared in the Times “Only and dearly loved son of Dr and Mrs John Cahill of Seville Street, Lowndes Square, SW aged 27, killed 16 Aug 1917.”

7 Aug 2013

Sources
Census 1891,1901, 1911 The census confirmed his parents had had 3 children, all living.
CWGC
Free BMD
London Gazette
Times
TNA file TNA file WO339/26144 long number 47355/6

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cahill, Capt. John Archibald, M.C., Royal Berks Regt., s. of dr. John Cahill of Seville Street, Lowndes Square, b. 1890, P., l. 1907, killed in action in World War I

Dr. Cahill’s 1915 letter to reassure the War Office of the survival of his son after the Battle of Neuve Chappelle.

The National Archive
Dr. Cahill's request to know where his son would be buried.

Caldecott, Charles D'Arcy

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Lt. E.Yorks Regt and R.E. 1914-19

Researcher:


Caldecott, Francis

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. 1918

Researcher:


Calwell, Andrew Fisher

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Researcher:


Cameron, Donald

Researcher:
Cameron, Donald, s. of dr. W. S. Cameron of Hampton Hill, b. 1895, L.S. and C., prefect, l. 1913, St. Bart’s Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1918; 18 Brookmead, Cranleigh

Cameron, Lt.-Col. Alexander

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Regiment: Lt.-Col. I.M.S.
Rank
Decorations: O.B.E.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Campbell, John Gifford

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1913
Regiment: Sergt. R.A.F. Died 1917
Unit RAF
Rank Sgt

Campbell, John Giffard

Died 1917 aged 18
Buried Pontefract
Reference: 9c 207
FBMD Pontefract 9c 207 Mar 1917

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Campbell, John Gifford, s. of dr. J. J. W. Campbell of Castleford, b. 1899, L.S. and W., l. 1915, Sergt. R.A.F., d. 1917

Cane, Cyril Herbert

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: Lt. Australian Forces, 1916-18
Rank

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cane, Cyril Herbert, brother of L. C. W. C. (1900), b. 1891, L.S. and F., 181907, sometime resident in Tasmania, Lieut., Australian Forces, 1916-18

Cane, Lionel Charles William

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank

Researcher:
Cane, Lionel Charles William, s. of dr. Howard Cane of Belvedere, Kent, b. 1886, F., l. 1904, Guy’s Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, brother of C. H. C. (1905), d. 1945

Cannell, Frank Stubbs
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: T/Maj. The Lincs Regt. 1914-18

Cannell, Frank Stubbs, s. of dr. John Cannell of Liscard, Cheshire, b. 1884, P., prefect, XV, XI (capt.), h. XI, l. 1903, schoolmaster, T/Maj. Lines Regt. 1914-18, desp., d. 1949

Capps, Frederick Cecil Wray
Entered Epsom College: 1913


– Distinguished Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

“His popularity with his ex house-surgeons can be measured by the dinner given in his honour on his retirement from Bart’s, when no less than 54 of them gathered together to pay their respects to him on leaving the active staff.”


Frederick Cecil Wray Capps (1898-1970) [Epsom College 1913-1916] was the son of Fleet Surgeon Frederick A. Capps, who later lost his life in the Battle of Jutland. At Epsom College he was a prefect, a member of the Rugby XV, and winner of the Watts Science and Gardiner Prizes. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to St Bartholomew’s Hospital, where he won the Treasurer’s and Foster Prizes for anatomy, and the Brackenbury Scholarship in Surgery.

By dint of extreme diligence he passed the 2nd Conjoint Examination in only nine months, a remarkable feat. This enabled him to join the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1917 as Surgeon Probationer, and he served the rest of the war in minesweepers and destroyers. He was then appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy and Pathology at St Bartholomew’s Hospital. He had a distinguished career as a specialist in ear, nose and throat surgery. From 1947 until 1963, he was Senior Consultant Ear Nose and Throat Surgeon at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, the Metropolitan Hospital, Willesden General Hospital, the West Suffolk Hospital and the Luton and Dunstable Hospital.

He was Chairman of the Medical Council, and Vice-President of the Medical College at St Bartholomew’s Hospital. He was Consultant Laryngologist to the Royal Navy, and the London County Council, Aural Referee to the Civil Service Commission, and the Treasury Medical Service, a Member of the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons, and President of the Section of Laryngology, and of the United Services Section at the Royal Society of Medicine. In 1957, he was Semon Lecturer and Medallist, University of London. From 1951 to 1953, he was Vice President of the British Association of Otolaryngology, and in 1949, he was General Secretary of the Fourth International Congress of Otolaryngology.

Outside of his specialty, to which he contributed many papers, he was keenly interested in sport. A man of boundless energy, he had played rugby football for Epsom College, and was a member of the St Bart’s rugby team which played against Guy’s Hospital in the final of the Hospitals Cup in the
1919-1920 Season. Tennis, squash and skiing were among his numerous later hobbies. In his obituary it was stated that “Freddie Capps, as he was affectionately known, was a man of outstanding character and ability. Apart from his professional eminence he was a man of wide interests – family, social and cultural. He had a beautiful home in Regents Park filled with antique furniture and when abroad was an assiduous visitor to the picture galleries and museums. Few can claim to have served their hospital and the world of otolaryngology with greater devotion and loyalty than Freddie Capps and with his passing, British Otolaryngology has lost one of its most distinguished practitioners.”

Cardell, John Douglas Magor

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Cardew, Arthur Barrett

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Carter, Alfred Henry

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“Well, how is he” the physician would ask. “I think he’s holding his own. No sleep though,” I replied. “That’s a pity. Well, persevere with the brandy and warm oxygen.”

Francis Brett Young. ‘The Young Physician.’ (1919).
Carter, Lt.-Col. Robert Markham

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


Robert Markham Carter (1875-1961) [Epsom College 1890-1894] was the son of Captain Arthur William Markham Carter of the 25th Bombay Native Infantry. From Epsom College, where he was a member of the Rugby XV, he completed his medical training at St George’s and St Bartholomew’s Hospitals as well as in Paris. After qualifying M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) in 1901, he entered the Indian Medical Service as medical officer to the 1st Bombay Lancers. From 1903-1904 he was attached to the Anglo-Turkish Boundary Commission in the Aden interior, and was then posted to the North West Frontier in India, where in the Zakka Zel Expedition of 1906 he was severely wounded. For his action in this campaign he was awarded the medal and clasp. Returning to Britain, Carter obtained the Diploma of Tropical Medicine (Liverpool) and was transferred to employment on the civil side of the Indian Medical Service. His first posting was to the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli and then, because his main interest lay in clinical work, in 1911, to St George’s Hospital, Bombay. In 1912, he obtained the F.R.C.S. (Eng.) and took charge of the teaching of medicine, pathology and morbid anatomy at the Grant Medical College where he had been appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacology, with collateral wards at the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital. In 1913, he was appointed Professor of Morbid Anatomy and Pathology at the Grant Medical College.

At the outbreak of the First World War, Carter served for a time as physician to the army hospital at Wimereux and afterwards on the two hospital ships ‘Aquitania’ and ‘Britannic.’ He then returned to England, and as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the R.A.M.C. took over duties as Consulting Physician at the Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire. He was twice mentioned in despatches. Outside medicine he was a Justice of the Peace for the County of Worcester.

Alfred Carter not only took a large part in the medical life of Birmingham, but a share also in the public affairs of the city, serving for a time on the city council, and as a member of its health committee. As an active member of the British Medical Association, he was Vice-President of the Section of Diseases of Children at the annual meeting at Leeds, in 1889, and President of that section in 1890 and 1911. He was also President of the Birmingham Branch of the B.M.A. in 1895-1896, and President of the Midland Medical Society in 1896-1897. In 1901 he received the degree of M.Sc from the University of Birmingham and was appointed Emeritus Professor of Physiology at Queen’s College, Birmingham. He retired from medical practice in 1913, by which time his chief publication, The Elements of Practical Medicine (1881), had reached eleven editions.

Following the outbreak of the First World War, Carter served for a time as physician to the army hospital at Wimereux and onwards on the two hospital ships ‘Aquitania’ and ‘Britannic.’ He then returned to England, and as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the R.A.M.C. took over duties as Consulting Physician at the Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire. He was twice mentioned in despatches. Outside medicine he was a Justice of the Peace for the County of Worcester.

Carter, Lt.-Col. Robert Markham

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Carter, Robert Markham, C.B., I.M.S., s. of Capt. A. W. Carter, 25th N.I., b. 1875, W., XV, l. 1894, St. Geo. and St. Bart.’s Hosps., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M.; F.C.P.S. (Bombay); desp. (3), F.Z.S., d. 1945

Robert Markham Carter (1875-1961) [Epsom College 1890-1894] was the son of Captain Arthur William Markham Carter of the 25th Bombay Native Infantry. From Epsom College, where he was a member of the Rugby XV, he completed his medical training at St George’s and St Bartholomew’s Hospitals as well as in Paris. After qualifying M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) in 1901, he entered the Indian Medical Service as medical officer to the 1st Bombay Lancers. From 1903-1904 he was attached to the Anglo-Turkish Boundary Commission in the Aden interior, and was then posted to the North West Frontier in India, where in the Zakka Zel Expedition of 1906 he was severely wounded. For his action in this campaign he was awarded the medal and clasp. Returning to Britain, Carter obtained the Diploma of Tropical Medicine (Liverpool) and was transferred to employment on the civil side of the Indian Medical Service. His first posting was to the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli and then, because his main interest lay in clinical work, in 1911, to St George’s Hospital, Bombay. In 1912, he obtained the F.R.C.S. (Eng.) and took charge of the teaching of medicine, pathology and morbid anatomy at the Grant Medical College where he had been appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacology, with collateral wards at the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital. In 1913, he was appointed Professor of Morbid Anatomy and Pathology at the Grant Medical College.

At the outset of the First World War, Carter was recalled to military service and was initially placed charge of the Varela, a hospital ship equipped and sent to Basra to evacuate casualties from ill starred action on the River Tigris. The many sick and wounded were transported on barges along this tortuous river. After the battle of Ctesiphon, Carter was profoundly shocked at the state of these casualties as they lay “covered with dysentery” and “lying inert amid stalactites of faeces,” without proper medical care or attention. One man that he examined was found to have a fractured thigh, with the thigh perforated in five or six places. On reporting this state of affairs, a number of stormy interviews at various levels led to threats to his career and liberty. He was accused of being “meddlesome and interfering.” Not being intimidated by this and after a final interview with the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir John Nixon, Carter resolved to report his findings to higher authority. This was a courageous act and the result is now part of military and medical history. The Mesopotamia Commission reported that “Carter, by his persistence brought to the notice of his superiors the terrible condition of the wounded when they arrived at Basra from Ctesiphon, and in
other ways he revealed shortcomings which might have been ignored and left un-remedied. His sense of duty seems to be most commendable, and he was fertile and resourceful in suggesting remedies.” The Commission found that official correspondence after the battle, such as the telegram sent by Sir John Nixon covered up details of the horrific conditions endured by the wounded. This telegram stated: “General conditions of wounded very satisfactory. Medical arrangements under circumstances of considerable difficulty worked splendidly.” Sir John Nixon, when interviewed, stated that he only had a dim, if any recollection of the circumstances, but he did accept responsibility for it. The result of this enquiry into what became known as the ‘Mesopotamia Scandals,’ resulted in the resignation of the Secretary of State for India, the Viceroy, and the Commander-in-Chief in India. “By his resolute actions, Carter brought about great improvements in Mesopotamia. Those of his colleagues who bore the heat and burden of the day in the field did not altogether appreciate the fame and kudos which Carter acquired from the comfort of his hospital in 1916, Carter was transferred to the India Office in Whitehall to organise medical equipment for the Mesopotamian Expedition; when the war Office took over the operations, Carter was transferred there and was made responsible for fitting out hospital ships and for organising a river fleet and water purification plant. He was three times mentioned in despatches, promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, and after questions were asked in Parliament he was appointed C.B. in 1918. In 1919, he resumed his civil career in Bombay, returning as First Physician at the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy hospital and Professor of Medicine at Grant Medical College, where he soon acquired a large consulting practice. From 1924-1926 he was President of the Bombay Branch of the British Medical Association and, in 1925, was appointed First Presidency Surgeon and Consulting Physician to the European General Hospital, Bombay. He died in 1961, at his home in Ascot, Berkshire.

Case, William Edward

|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Case, William Edward, s. of dr. G. H. Case of Fareham, b. 1880, C., 1-1895, ships purser, Hon. Capt. and Q.M. Can. A.M.C. 1914-18; 70 Victoria Road, Southsea

Casebourne, Charles Telford

|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Casebourne, Charles Telford, s. of C. B. Casebourne, consulting marine engineer, of Epsom, b. 1894, D.B. and C., l. 1910, marine consulting engineer, T/Lt. R.G.A. 1914-18, brother of J. T. C. and P. C. C. (1911); Caldra, St. Mary’s Road, Surbiton

Casebourne, John Townshend

<table>
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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Casebourne, John Townshend, brother of C. T. C. (1905), b. 1898, D.B., prefect, l. 1916, manufacturer of electrical instruments, T/Lt. R.F.A. 1917-18; 5882 Central Avenue, Indianapolis

Casebourne, Philip Coleby

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Caw, John Ashton

Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: Lieut. Saskatchewan Regt. 1914-18


Challenor, Oscar Bernard

Entered Epsom College: 1904

Oscar Bernard Challenor M.C., 1890 - 1942
4th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales)

Oscar Challenor was born on 17 October 1890 (GRO 4th qtr. 2c, 267) in Abingdon Oxfordshire as it then was. Later boundary changes placed Abingdon in Berkshire where it remains today. His father Bromley Challenor and mother Martha Matilda Childs had married in 1878 on the Isle of Wight (GRO 2nd qtr. 2b, 1025) and had settled in Abingdon where Bromley Challenor practiced as a solicitor. Oscar was the youngest child of their family of four boys and four girls one of whom died in childhood.

At the time of Oscar’s birth the family lived at The Firs, Marcham Road, Abingdon and were clearly well established, three servants living in the house with them. In January 1904 he went as a boarder to Epsom College but he remained there for a relatively short time. He entered the College in the Lower School in form Lower III progressing to the Upper III in 1905 where he won the Lower School Mathematics prize. In 1906 he moved into the Upper School in Granville House but left Epsom at the end of Michaelmas Term in 1906 when he would have been just 16. It appears from his military records that he then went to Abingdon Grammar School to complete his schooling.

By the time of the 1911 census Oscar was employed as an articled clerk and his oldest brother, also named Bromley after his father, was an established solicitor. A brother Norman had been commissioned into the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1904, had been promoted to Captain in 1907 and in 1909 appointed as Instructor of Musketry. For a while in 1911, shortly before he was married to a doctor’s daughter in 1913, Norman appears to have left the army and worked in the paper industry and he and his father travelled to Canada via New York in June 1913 on the Olympic the sister ship of the Titanic. However he was recalled to the Royal Berkshire Regiment when war broke out. His brother Oscar also answered the call and on 23 December 1912 was declared fit for duties as an officer of the Territorial Force. The Colonel of the Berkshire County Territorial Association applied to the G-O-C-in-Chief, Southern Command for Oscar to be appointed as a Second Lieutenant in the 4th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment on the recommendation of the President of the Berkshire County Association. He was duly commissioned as a 2/Lieutenant on 14 January 1913 (L Gazette 07.01.1913 Issue 28688 p964).

Sadly on 31 July 1915 Capt. Norman Bowen Challenor was killed in Flanders. He had been transferred from the 3rd Battalion Royal Berks to the 2nd Battalion and had taken part in the action of Bois-Grenier where he was killed. He is buried in the White City Cemetery, Bois-Grenier, Nord-Pas-de-Calais plot C 12. He left an Estate of £4835 (£470,000.00 in 2014) which was administered by his brother Bromley and in due course Oscar.
Oscar was to lead a distinguished career during WW1. In December 1913 he was promoted to Lieutenant (L Gazette 24.12.1913 Issue 28795 p48). On the 31 March 1915 he left England for France to join the BEF and for the next six months served as ADC to the General Officer Commanding 46 Division. In October he re-joined his Battalion and for the next year or so served as transport officer. In 1916 he was Mentioned in Despatches (Suppl. L Gazette 01.01.1916 p48) and in August of that year was promoted to Temporary Capt. this rank being made substantive in June 1917. In late 1917 he was sent on a course of instruction at Flexicourt in France before re-joining his Battalion as a Company Commander and shortly afterwards he was appointed 2nd in Command of the Battalion. In May of that year he had been awarded the Military Cross (Suppl LGazette 25.05.1917 Issue 30095 p5180). The citation reads: “Lt. (temp Capt.) Oscar Bernard Challenor R Berks Regt. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company most gallantly in the face of heavy fire and succeeded in gaining his objective. He set a magnificent example to his men”.

In November 1917 he was sent to Italy with his unit. In April 1918 he returned to England for the first time since March 1915 to attend senior officers’ school at Aldershot. In July he went back to Italy to re-join his unit as a Company Commander and finally in March 1919 he returned to the United Kingdom for demobilisation landing at Havant. He then appears to have served on a part time basis in the Territorials being promoted to Major in June 1920 serving as 2nd in Command of the Battalion.

He had been admitted to the legal profession as a solicitor in February 1920. No doubt as his practice grew, finding time to fulfil his army commitments became more difficult. On the 4th December 1922 his application to resign his commission was forwarded by the officer commanding the 4th Bn. Royal Berkshire Regiment to the Headquarters of the South Midland Infantry Brigade recommending that the application by Major OB Challenor, M.C. should be supported and he left military service retaining the rank of Major.

Thus ended a distinguished military career. He had been wounded twice, in August 1915 in France and in September 1918 on the Asiago Plateau in Italy where he sustained a minor head injury. Fortunately both wounds were regarded as “slight”. Shortly after this second injury he suffered a further blow receiving news of the death of his father, Bromley Challenor.

For the next 20 years he practised as a solicitor in the family firm in Abingdon. He appears to have continued to live in the family home at The Firs as a bachelor presumably with his widowed mother until he married in 1936 in Wantage Berks. His wife, Doris Loraine Ker, had been born in 1902 in Yorkshire and after their marriage they moved to another house in Abingdon not far from The Firs. Doris was 12 years younger than Oscar and in due course they had 2 daughters and a son. Sadly their marriage was cut short when Oscar died at the early age of 52.

When Oscar died in Abingdon (GRO 3rd qtr 1942, 2c 325) probate was granted to his widow Doris Loraine and to George Bromley Norman Challenor, solicitor, who was the son of Oscar’s brother Norman, born just before his father was killed in Flanders in 1915. Oscar and in 1996 his widow were buried in Abingdon. The firm of Challenor & Sons, Solicitors is still present in Bath St., Abingdon today.

Reference sources:
GRO
Ancestry
London Gazette
CWGC
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsom College Register
Medal Index cards
TNA (SCG Nov 2014)

Challenor, Oscar Bernard, M.C., s. of Bromley Challenor, M.B.E., actor, of Abingdon, b. 1891, L.S. and G., l. 1906, solicitor, Maj. R. Berks Regt. (T.F.), d. 1942

Chamberlain, Neville Graham

Decorations:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Chamberlayne, Arthur

**CHAMBERLAYNE Arthur**

16 bn Lancashire Fusiliers, D Company
10 April 1917

Arthur was born on 5 August 1894, at Ashton Under Lyme, (GRO Ref: Dec 1894 Ashton 8d 524). He was the third child of Dr Edward Chamberlyne and his wife Lucy Margaret nee Loes His parents had married in 1888 (GRO Ref: Sep 1888 Leeds 9b 694).

In 1891 the family was living at 24 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Cheshire. Edward was a 31 year old physician and surgeon. Lucy was 29. Edward junior was 18 They had two visitors, Emma and Kate Chamberlayne, a cook, a lady’s help and a housemaid.

The couple gave birth to Arthur’s sister Margaret in 1893 and Arthur in the following year. His parents died within three months of each other in 1897. Arthur was unofficially adopted by Mrs Margaret J Loes. She had been a friend of Arthur’s mother and had married Arthur’s maternal grandfather. Arthur’s mother had asked her to look after Arthur just before she died. His older siblings were looked after by other members of the family.

In 1901 six year old Arthur was living at 1 Grange Avenue, Potter Newton, Leeds with his grandfather, 69 year old James Loes, surgeon. Margaret his mother was 48. James had 3 children of his own: James aged 23 an mechanical engineering student, Ada 21, and Richard aged 17 who was an apprentice electrical engineer. The family had a cook and a housemaid.

Arthur entered Epsom College on 20 Sept 1906 as a Foundation Scholar. This meant that he was considered to deserve a funded place at the school. He started in ”B” House in the Lower School and progressed to Forest House in the Senior School. Margaret J Loes registered him and gave her address as 86 Shepards Lane, Roundhay, Leeds. His brother Edward also attended Epsom College. Arthur was a bright child and id well at school. In his first year he came 6th out of 23 pupils and won one of the Mathematics prizes. He came 14 out of 23 students the following year and then went into the Modern Middle school where he came 3rd out of 23 in 1909 and 2nd out of 22 in 1910 and won the modern Middle prize for mathematics. In 1911 he achieved 11th position out of 20 pupils in the Modern V form. Arthur was recorded at the college in the 1911 census and left at Xmas 1911.

In 1911 58 year old Margaret Loes, widowed, was living in a 10 roomed house at 119 Roundhay Road, Leeds. Ada Frances Hannah Loes, a 31 year old shorthand typist, and 25 year old Gerald who was in the Merchant Service were living with her. They were described as daughter and son but they were actually her step-children. Five year old Norman Scarbro Loes, a grandson, and John Megson 25 were visiting. They had one servant.

He transferred as lance corporal 3/23942 from 3 Bn Yorks and Lancs to the 9th OCB Scottish Rifles 6 June 1916. He was accepted for no 9 Officer Cadet Bn to join at Gailes Ayrshire 5 June 1916 and became a 2nd Lieutenant in D Company, 16 bn, Lancashire Fusiliers.

A series of telegrams documented his final days. The first on 4 April reported that he had been admitted to 8 General Hospital Rouen with slight gun shot wounds to his left groin and right ear. He also had a wound to his left buttock. On 6 April 1917 Mrs Loes was informed that he was dangerously ill, and on 10 April 1917 that he had died at 8.5 (sic)am.

He was buried at St Sever cemetery, Rouen and his grave was marked with a wooden cross, grave B.5. 218 along with 3082 Commonwealth servicemen

His belongings returned from France consisted of: a red identity disc, letters, photo etc 1 pipe, 1 leather pocket book, 1 small calendar, 1 pocket knife, 1 pair of nail scissors, 1 handkerchief, 1 pair of braces, 1 whistle and lanyard, 1 cigarette case, 1 piece of shell, 1 electric torch, 1 pair of field glasses, 1 instruction book, 2 tins of tobacco, 1 wrist watch and strap glass broken 14 keys on a ring, 2 collar badges, 1 fountain pen holder, visiting cards, blank cheques and receipts.

Margaret Loes 24 Oakwood Roundhay wrote to the War Office on 6 Sept 1917: “Everybody thought Arthur was my son and so he was to me and no one knows how much I will miss his tender lover for me and he knew no other mother or home.”

At the time of his death his brother Edward Chamberlayne was living at Church Street Frodsham and his sister Margaret was at 11 Burwood Ave, Leamington Spa. His British and Victory medals were sent to E Chamberlayne 10 Crescent Drive, Helsby Cheshire.

Sources
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
Epsom register and yellow book.
Medal card
Chapman, Cdr. Lionel Valentine Granville

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Chapman, Frank

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<td>Chunuk Bair (NZ) Mem, Turkey</td>
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Chapman, Frank

Frank was born in Richmond, Surrey on 13 July 1858 (GRO Ref: Sept 1858 Richmond Surrey 2a 192) the fourth son of Frederick Chapman and his wife Jane nee Page. His parents had married on 23 March 1852 at Bradwell on Sea in Essex (GRO Ref Mar 1852 Maldon 4a 160).

In 1861 the family was living at “Old Friars”, Richmond, Surrey, today a grade II listed building. Frederick was a 47 year old medical practitioner and surgeon. Jane was 33. Two year old Frank had three older brothers: Herbert aged 7, Arthur 6 and Ernest 4. He also had a younger sister Mabel aged 1. The family employed a nurse, under-nurse, housemaid and cook.

Frank’s mother died on 12 Jan 1867 after the birth of another daughter, Jane, on 2 Jan.

In 1871 57 year old Frederick was a still a widower. Only Frank’s younger siblings were living at home: Mabel aged 11 (recorded in the census as Marian), Hugh 7 and Thomas 5 and Jane aged 4. Members of his mother’s family Marian Page, Robert Page and Margaret Higgins were visiting them. The family still employed a nurse, an under-nurse, a cook and a housemaid.

Frank’s father was practising as a surgeon on Richmond Green, Surrey.

Frank’s three older brothers all attended Epsom College: Herbert Frederick 1868-1872, Arthur Henry 1868-1873 and Ernest Edward 1869-1873 and Frank attended the College from Sept 1871 until Easter 1876. He was also recorded at the College’s prep school in East Street, Epsom in the 1871 census.

On leaving school, Frank’s father determined that he could not afford to pay for each of his sons to enter the medical profession, and so he sent Frank, and his two older brothers Ernest and Arthur, to New Zealand in 1881 as migrant settlers. They settled to sheep farming in Opotiki in the Bay of Plenty. Ernest Chapman purchased land in the Waiotahi Valley in November 1881 at a cost of £33 5s. The brothers established a farm on the land, and by the early 1890s had built a seven‐roomed house. The 1885 electoral roll shows Frank living there.

Frank became involved in local affairs, serving on the Licensing Board and the District Road Board for many years. He also belonged to the Opotiki Masonic Lodge no.1930. Frank was a noted cricketer, playing for Waiotahi. The brothers were well‐liked for their caring, sympathetic nature, and were held in high regard by local Maori. It is probable that the local tribe was
Ngati Kahungunu, although this area in the Bay of Plenty was also close to Tuhoe land.

Back in Richmond, Surrey, their father died on 26 October 1886 aged 72.

Arthur was killed in New Zealand on 8 June 1895 by the accidental discharge of a gun whilst he was climbing over a fence. Such accidents were not uncommon events at that time. Thereafter Frank gave his brother Ernest as next of kin.

The 2nd Anglo-Boer War saw a substantial rise in interest in the Volunteer Corps of New Zealand, with units being raised and existing units increasing their numbers. The Opotuki Mounted Rifles Volunteers had been raised in September 1900 and was designated ‘B’ Company, 4th Battalion Auckland Mounted Rifles (AMR) Volunteers. Frank had been elected lieutenant on the unit’s formation, but it was almost a year before his position was ratified on 4th September 1901. He was a tall, well built man.

For the period standing 5ft 10in and weighing 162 lbs. He had a 36 inch chest which expanded to 38 inches.

Frank, perhaps sensing the opportunity for gaining valuable operational experience, petitioned the Commandant of the Auckland Military District for a commission in the 10th New Zealand Mounted Rifles (NZMR) contingent. This request was passed to the Premier, RJ Seddon, who endorsed it and Chapman was duly granted a lieutenant’s commission on 14 April 1902.

In addition to the men of the NZMR, the ship also carried the Premier, RJ Seddon, to South Africa for a tour of the country.

During a stop-over in Australia, a photograph of the Contingent officers and Premier Seddon was taken and Frank can be seen standing in the back row, second from the right.

Add photo 10th NZMR Officers on board SS Drayton Grange April 1902.

The Regiment arrived in Durban, Natal on 17 May 1902, formed up, was photographed and then entrained for Newcastle in north-west Natal where they remained until July when they returned to New Zealand. Frank sailed on the S.S. Montrose, arriving in New Zealand on 20 August 1902. He was awarded the Queen’s South Africa medal with clasp ‘South Africa 1902’, this being the standard issue to this Contingent.

He had appointed his brother Ernest to be his agent and lawful attorney whilst he was on active service. On his return to New Zealand he maintained a keen interest in military matters after the war and served in the Opotuki Mounted Rifle Volunteers until 27 June 1905, when he resigned his commission there.

Frank was promoted to acting-captain and adjutant of the 4th(Waikato) Battalion, AMR. He successfully passed the examination for Captain at Te Puke in September 1905, and was subsequently confirmed in that rank. In March 1907 Frank applied for a twelve-month leave of absence from New Zealand to return to England. In his desire to improve his military education, he wrote to the Defence Department requesting he be considered for any course of instruction in England, which may be offered to New Zealand officers. His keenness and suitability was noted, but no such formal training was forthcoming.

During Frank’s tour of England, he was invited by Admiral Lord Charles Beresford to the Royal Navy fleet manoeuvres. Frank declined the invitation regretfully as he had planned to meet with a lady from New Zealand, when she visited London.

Unfortunately since organising to meet in London, she had become engaged to another man. His feelings at passing up the opportunity of being the guest of Admiral Beresford can only be guessed at!

In December 1909 Frank passed the examination for promotion to the rank of major. In 1910 the Volunteer system of military training was replaced by the Territorial system. On the reorganisation of the Defence Force, Frank was promoted to major on 15 September 1910 in place of Captain C. Bockett, who had been acting-major for some time. In December 1912 Frank passed the examination for advancement to lieutenant-colonel, and on 30 April 1914 his promotion was announced in the New Zealand Gazette.

On the outbreak of the Great War, New Zealand raised an Expeditionary Force for service in Europe. In September 1914 the officers of the NZEF were announced in the New Zealand Gazette, and Frank was appointed Major on the staff of the AMR under Lt-Col. C E R Macksey. The Auckland contingent of the Main Body, NZEF paraded before the Defence Minister, James Allen, on 19 September at Alexandra Park. The mounted regiments were led by Major Frank Chapman, the whole parade being recorded on film. This film has been preserved at the NZ Film Archive in Wellington (F38469, NZ Film Archives, Wellington).

Frank was appointed OC troopship and embarked 16 Oct 1914 on HMNZT 8 ship Star of India for Suez Egypt with the AMR Regiment. Disembarking at Suez, Egypt on 3rd December 1914, the NZEF went into a period of training in preparation for the planned attack on Turkey.

On the evening of 5 February 1915, Frank was examining the revolver belonging to Captain Thomas Blake, the AMR veterinarian, when the weapon discharged removing his middle and ring finger of his left hand. He was treated in the Australian General hospital at Heliopolis, Cairo. The Medical Board considered that he would be fit in 14 days and be able to hold a bridle rein and ride, and have full movement in his hand. He was treated in the 1st Australian General hospital at Helipolis, Cairo. The Medical Board considered that he would be fit in 14 days and be able to hold a bridle rein and ride, and have full movement in his hand.

In mid-April 1915, the bulk of the NZEF the in Egypt embarked for Mudros and, ultimately, Gallipoli. Frank was appointed Camp Commandant at Zeitoun. He arrived in Gallipoli on 25 June 1915 with two orderlies in time for the preparations for the general offensive, planned for early August. In the next four months the regiment suffered more than half of all its casualties in the war.

Officers of the 4th Waikato Sqn Auckland Mounted Rifles. Frank seated in the centre.

The campaign’s objective was to capture the heights of Chunuk Bair and Hill 971 which, if successful, would enable the capture of the Gallipoli Peninsula. The first phase was a night assault by the NZMR on the foothills of the Sari Bair range. Frank led the 4th Waikatos during the assault on Old No. 3 Post, which was successfully taken at the point of the bayonet.

A description of the attack was given by Fred Waite in his book, the New Zealanders at Gallipoli (1):

“Up on the crest the destroyer's shells were crashing into the barbed wire and the heavy wooden beams of the overhead cover. In a few minutes the attacking party was lying all round the crest on the southern side. Presently the guns stopped, and the searchlight faded away. This was the signal! The Aucklanders rose and, spreading fanwise, went straight for the post. Into the covered trenches dived the Mounted Riflemen. The garrison fought gamely enough, but there could only be one end to it. The main body of the garrison came pouring back from their reserve trenches towards the post; but, caught in the open, they were no match for the men from Auckland. In a short time the...
whole work was completely in our hands... as it was, we had only twenty casualties, while close on one hundred Turks lay dead within the Post and in its neighbourhood. The Auckland Mounted Rifles had signally avenged the Mounted Brigade losses at the end of May.”

Frank was mentioned in Sir Ian Hamilton’s despatch on 11 Dec 1915 for his actions that night. (2) The citation read: “Led the attack until wounded on Old No 3 Post on the night 6/7 August 1915”.

After a day’s rest the AMR were held at Overton’s Gully in preparation for the assault on Chunuk Bair, scheduled for the morning of 8 August 1915.

The story of the assault on Chunuk Bair on that fateful morning centres on the actions of Wellington Infantry Battalion under Lt-Col. W. Malone. Having taken the heights, they needed reinforcements urgently. At around 0900 the AMR was ordered up Rhododendron Ridge and onto Chunuk Bair to assist Col. Malone’s battalion. This movement required traversing exposed ground, swept by Turkish sniper, machine-gun and artillery fire and proved exceptionally difficult. Dashing across this ground, the AMR became pinned down in a shallow saddle somewhere near The Pinnacle. They remained here for several hours, subjected to a severe artillery bombardment, and suffered heavy casualties. Frank was killed in the action on Chunuk Bair 8 August 1915 (CWGC) although The Times records his death as 10 Aug.

The official Australian War Historian, Charles Bean wrote:
“...Whenever a man stirred, two guns, firing at extreme range from the direction of Anafarta, were turned upon the saddle. By their shells Major Chapman and several others were killed.”

Squadron Sergeant-Major Vincent James Innes gave a sworn eyewitness account, recorded on Frank’s probate file(3):
“At or about 10 o’clock in the forenoon I saw the said Frank Chapman deceased shot in action and I saw him for about twenty minutes after he was shot.... Two hours later he was dead as I am able to depose from having seen his dead body after death and from having been present at his burial and from having seen the place where he was buried marked as his grave.”

Another eyewitness, Trooper Greville Garland wrote:
“Then they got shrapnel onto us – this was the very devil, and played mischief with our fellows. Our CO Major Chapman, got hit through the leg and died from shock and loss of blood – he was an elderly and very decent man – and others were being smacked out right and left.”

Chapman’s grave was never found, and he is recorded on the Chunuk Bair memorial to the missing Turkey. His medals including the1914-15 Star, memorial plaque and scroll were sent to his brother, Ernest in the early 1920s as his nominated next of kin. A small obituary appeared in the Opatiki Herald soon after Chapman’s death was reported.

With his death, aged 57 he remains the oldest officer to lose his life during the Gallipoli campaign. Perhaps his age, combined with his English Public School education stood him apart from other men. There is little doubt Frank inherited his father’s instinct for caring for others. In one of the few references to Frank’s character, C. Nichol, author of the Official History of the AMR wrote:
“Second in command was Major Chapman, an officer who was to die almost at the beginning of his war service. Hale fellow well met, he won the respect of the men, and they were stern critics.”

I am indebted to Phil Beattie, Auckland, New Zealand who provided a substantial amount of the information, text and photographs. Some additions by Liz Manterfield.

Sources:
Census return
CWGC
Epsom College register printed
London Daily News 29 Oct 1886
(2) London Gazette 28 Jan 1916 p1210
New Zealand Herald Vol LII 4 Sept 1915
New Zealand on-line memorial
(3) Probate file, BBAE 1569 Box 349/10609, Archives NZ, Auckland Office
The Times 31 Aug 1915
(1)Waite, F The New Zealanders at Gallipoli, Whitcombe and Tombs Limited: Christchurch 1919 p. 207
Frank Chapman as a young man

Major Frank Chapman

10th NZMR Officers on board SS Drayton Grange April 1902

Frank, August 1902

Officers of the 4th Waikato Sqn Auckland Mounted Rifles. Frank seated in the centre.
The Opotiki Herald states: Quite a gloom was thrown over Opotiki when it became known that the war had claimed another victim in the person of Lieut.-Colonel Frank Chapman. On the outbreak of hostilities Lieut.-Colonel Chapman was one of the first to volunteer for active service, and was appointed second in command of the Auckland Mounted Rifles. He was for a time in command of the camp at Zeitun, but apparently proceeded to Gallipoli about the end of June, and there was killed in action. The late Lieut.-Colonel Chapman was not only an officer and a gentleman, but one of the kindest-hearted men.

Frank Chapman's death announcement in his local newspaper

Opotiki War Memorial, New Zealand

Opotiki War Memorial, New Zealand

Frank Chapman's name on the Opotiki War Memorial

Charlton, Sidney England

Entered Epsom College: 1907

Decorations:

HMM? □
Chessall, Arthur Roland Holmes

**Birth Year:** 1878  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1890

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<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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**Died:** 07/10/16  
**Aged:** 38  
**Buried:** Thiepval Memorial, France

Arthur was born on 25 June 1878 in Horley, Surrey, (GRO Ref: Sept 1878 Reigate 2a 173) the son of Dr William Chessall and his wife, Adelaide Eliza nee Fish. His parents had married in 1876.

In the 1881 census the family was living in Station Road, Horley, Surrey. Arthur’s father was a 49 year old General Medical Practitioner and his young wife Adelaide was 24. Two year old Arthur had two brothers, 3 year old William and Clifford who was 11 months old. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid.

In January 1897 Arthur suffered a double loss, losing his father on 19th after being ill for some weeks, and his uncle the following day. They were buried in a double funeral in Horley churchyard, and his aunt and her two daughters moved into the Chessall home in Lumley House, Station Road.

Arthur followed his brother William to Epsom College, Forest House, entering the school on 20 Jan 1890 and was awarded a Council Exhibition. The College could award up to 10 of these exhibitions to deserving students after examination and it reduced the annual school fees from 75 gns for sons of non-medical men to £36 15s. There was also a reduction if a brother was at the School. Despite gaining an exhibition and coming 8th out of 39 pupils in his first year, Arthur did not shine academically and was usually in a position three quarters down his form. He loved cricket and played sufficiently well to be selected for the first Cricket XI in 1894 and in 1895 before leaving in July.

In 1891 Arthur’s mother was still living in the Station Road house. His aunt Amy Halls and two cousins were also living there plus a cook and a domestic servant. Arthur and his brother William were pupils at Epsom College and Clifford was at Christ’s Hospital School, another charitable foundation, at that time still in London. After leaving school, Arthur went to work as a clerk for an advertising agent.

Arthur’s mother remarried in 1899 (GRO Ref: Sept 1899 Kensington 1a 301) to Frederick Ferdinand B Young and moved to Kingston on Thames, much to the disappointment of residents in Horley. Dr Chessall had been very popular locally and he and Adelaide had been much involved in parish and local activities. Arthur and his brothers attended their wedding.

In 1901 the family was living at Kingennie, Lingfield Avenue in Kingston on Thames. Arthur’s stepfather was described as late Capt of 5 Dragoon Guards. Arthur was still working as a clerk for an advertising agent, Clifford was a bank clerk. The two Hall nieces were still living with them and the family employed a cook.

In the 1911 census Arthur was 32 and a temporary clerk in the Civil Service. He was living with his stepfather Frederick Burkinyoung (sic) and his mother in a 7 roomed house, at 64 Holme Park Road, Wimbledon Park.

He enlisted in the army at Kensington but his service papers have not survived.

Arthur’s battalion was part of 140 Brigade, 47 Division. They were ordered to push the Germans back beyond the village of Eaucourt l’Abbaye and to capture Butte de Warlencourt. This was an ancient artificial mound, and at 60 feet high a highly prized vantage point, lying about two miles north of High Wood. Arthur and his battalion attacked the Warlencourt line and the Butte de Warlencourt on Saturday 7 October, but the mound was heavily fortified and the attack resulted in high casualties from the German barrage whilst advancing through Eaucourt l’Abbaye and from machine gun fire beyond the village. The attack failed and Arthur was killed in action.

Arthur has no known grave and is remembered on the Thiepval memorial to the missing on the Somme, panel 13C. He was awarded the British and Victory medals.

Administration of his estate, valued at £162 17s 2d, was granted to his mother, Mrs Adelaide Eliza Burkinyoung, wife of Frederick Burkinyoung and recorded Arthur at his mother’s address i.e. The Cottage, Southwater.
Chessall, Arthur Roland Holmes, brother of W. A. H. C. (1886), b. 1878, F., XI, l. 1895, surveyor in the Land Valuation Department, London Regt., killed in action 1916

Christie, Donald Fairgray

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Clapham, Graham Windyer

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<td>1892</td>
<td>T/2nd Lt. R.F.A., d. of wounds in World War I</td>
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Clapham, Graham W

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<td>71st Bde, RFA</td>
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CLAPHAM Graham Windyer 2nd Lt RFA 71 Bde

10 May 1917

Graham was born on 23 May 1880 in Thorney, Peterborough, the second son of Lawrence Clapham and his wife Mary Frederica nee Morris. The Registrar of Births was John Clapham, possibly his grandfather. His parents had married in 1877, (GRO Ref: Dec 1877 S Stoneham 2c 115). Graham was baptised in Thorney parish church on 21 June 1880.

In 1881 the family was living at the Green, Thorney, next door to Graham’s paternal grandparents, John and Ellen Clapham. Graham’s father was 35 and a surgeon, MRCS and Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries (LSA). He was also to become the Registrar of Births and Deaths and the public vaccinator. Graham’s mother was 25 years old. 10 months old Graham had an older brother Martin Vernon aged 2. The family employed a nursemaid and servant. Graham’s mother gave birth to another son, Harold, in 1881 but died at the end of the year. His father would continue to live in the house and worked in Thorney as a surgeon and general practitioner for many years.

In the 1891 census Graham was at St George’s School, Harpenden. On 21 Jan 1892 his father registered him for Epsom College’s Lower School and he entered Form 1 in Forest House. Graham started off well being moved up to the Second form, having two pieces of work shown to the Head and winning the form prize. The following year he did less well coming 12th out of 22 boys in the Lower Third form and he left at Christmas 1893. Both his brothers attended Epsom College.

In 1901 he was working as a farming assistant for Frederick Griffin on Crow Tree Farm, Borough Fen, Peterborough. By 1911 he had progressed to become a farmer and grazier, and was living in an 8 roomed farmhouse in Thorney. He employed a housekeeper and a servant.

He attested as Trooper (Private) 774 in the Army Reserve (Special Reservists) 2nd King Edward’s Horse on 7 September 1914 at White City, London. He was 6 feet½ ins tall, weighed 184 lbs, had a 38in chest which could expand to 39½ins. He had fair hair, blue eyes and was found fit for the Army Reserve. They went to Boulogne, France from Folkestone as part of 71st brigade on 4
May 1915. His ability was apparent early on. He was appointed to Lance Corporal on 5 June 1915 with pay dating from 30 July when he was promoted to Corporal. He was promoted to Lance Sergeant in the field on 15 September 1915 and continued to serve with them until Dec 1915. On 13 September 1915 Col Perkins of 69 Prov Bn RFA Lowestoft wrote to Graham’s CO stating that he was prepared to offer him a commission under his command and would be glad of his services, but that Graham had not been able to get leave to apply. He wished him to be given the time to do so. He also said that he had offered him a commission earlier but that Graham had felt “it would not be playing the game to ask to be released when the corps was under orders for foreign service”.

Whilst on leave in December 1915 before taking up his commission, Graham was operated on for a double inguinal hernia at Queen Alexandra’s military hospital extension, Grosvenor Road, London. He received a commission attached to No 1A Reserve Brigade RFA Newcastle on Tyne as 2nd Lieutenant (on probation) on 31 Jan 1916 and returned to France in July 1916 as part of 73 Bde. On 31 Dec 1916 he moved to C Bty 71 Bde as part of the army’s reorganisation in the field. He died at 19 Casualty Clearing Station of wounds received near Arras on 10 May 1917 aged 36 and is buried at Duisans British Cemetery, Étun, Pas de Calais grave number III M 19. He is also remembered on the family’s memorial in St Mary and St Botolph churchyard, Thorney Abbey church, Cambridgeshire.

Sources
BMJ May 1917
Census returns 1881,1891,1901,1911
Epsom college register
Epsom Yellow Book
Free BMD
London Gazette 4 Feb 1916
Probate
TNA WO 339/54888 Much weeded 1932

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Clapham, Graham Windyer, brother of M. V. C. (1891), b. 1880, F., l. 1893, farmer, T/2nd Lt. R.F.A., d. of wounds in World War I

Clarke, Maj. Claud Fitzroy

Birth Year: 1883
Entered Epsom College: 1896
House: W

Regiment: Maj. Deccan Horse died through illness contracted on service

Rank: Major

Clarke, Claude Fitzroy

Died 30/06/18 aged 35
Buried Mitcham (Church Road) Cem, Sy

Reference: 270

Researcher: Elizabeth Manterfield

CLARKE Claude Fitzroy Major
Indian Cavalry 20 Deccan Horse
Died 30 June 1918

Claude was born in Mitcham, Surrey on 8 Feb 1883, (GRO Ref: Jun 1883 Croydon 2a 275) the only child of Dr James Ferrier Clarke and his second wife, Marion nee Gale. They had married the year before in Canterbury (GRO ref: June 1882 Canterbury 2a 1242). Claude was baptised on 5 April 1883 in the church of St Peter and St Paul, Mitcham Surrey. The family was living at Baron Lodge, and his father was a surgeon. Claude’s father had been born in Ireland in 1841 and married Emily Kate Ponsonby Eames in Londonderry in April 1863. They had moved to Farnsworth, Lancashire and had at least 6 children: Anabella 1864, Alfred 1865, Alexander 1867, Harold 1871, William 1873 and Emily 1880. His wife Emily died in 1880.

Claude was educated at Epsom College, starting in Wilson house on 17 September 1896. He was recorded there in the 1901...
census and left in July. Initially he performed well academically coming 7th out of 26 students in the Lower fourth form and 3rd out of 25 students in the Middle Fourth. Put then he tailed off coming 18th out of 25 in the last form of the Middle School and bottom of 18 in the Upper School. Despite this he became a sub-prefect, then a prefect and played in the rugby XV. He was a keen member of the Cadet Corps and a prefect. After Epsom he passed into Sandhurst but relinquished his studies during the Boer War to volunteer his services. In 1902 he was given a commission in the 34th Imperial Yeomanry and served several months in South Africa.

In 1901 his parents were living at 6 Romeo Villas, London Road Mitcham. His father James was a 60 year old doctor of medicine who had been born in Ireland. Marion was 46. They employed cook, a nurse and a coachman.

In 1911 his parents were living in a 15 roomed house at 50 Nightingale Lane, SW, which they are running as a small private hospital with two resident patients.

After peace was declared he joined the Surrey Yeomanry, was given an honorary commission and then obtained a commission in the 1st East Surrey Regiment. In 1903 transferred to the 2nd bn and went to India. His service history gleaned from the London Gazette (LG) was as follows:

Claude Fitzroy Clarke, Gent., late Colour-Sergeant Cadet Corps, to 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. Dated 7 February, 1902.

LG 11 March 1902.

Surrey (The Princess of Wales's), Honorary Lieutenant Claud Fitzroy Clarke, late Imperial Yeomanry, to be Second Lieutenant. Dated 10 February, 1903.

LG 20 February 1903.

East Surrey Regiment, Second Lieutenant (Honorary Lieutenant in the Army) Claud Fitzroy Clarke, from Surrey Imperial Yeomanry.

LG 3 July 1903.

On 2 July 1907 his transfer to 8th Rajputs was confirmed but to rank from 4 October, 1905. He then transferred to a cavalry regiment, the Deccan Horse.

He married Agnes Violet Wakefield Angelo (Violet) eldest daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel JWE Angelo of the Indian Army in Mussorie, Bengal, India in 22 Aug 1906. He was a keen sportsman and a fine judge of horses, and popular amongst all ranks and became well known throughout the north and south India.

He went to France with his regiment in 1914 and fought in the first battle of Ypres. He was adjutant to the regiment from March 1915 to March 1916. He was invalided home when he contracted empyema (usually caused by an infection that spreads from the lung and leads to a build up of pus in the pleural space putting pressure on the lungs.) He refused an offer to return to India, and at his own request rejoined his regiment in France early in 1917 and became a major on 18 Nov 1917. He served up to Feb 1918 when he suffered another bout of empyema from which he died on 30 June 1918 whilst being treated at Lady Ridley’s Hospital, 10 Carlton House Terrace. Middlesex.

He is buried in Mitcham Church Rd Burial Ground Surrey plot 2.70. He is remembered on the brass plaque in St Mary’s church Maldon, Essex.

CWGC recorded his widow’s address as Ladies’ Army and Navy Club, 27, St James’s Place, SW18

Probate granted to his widow on 26 Feb 1920. His effects were valued at £868 0s 3d

On 30 June 1942 his widow placed the following memorial notice in the newspaper: “In tenderest and ever-present memory of my beloved and very devoted husband and pal, Claude Fitzroy Clarke, Major, 20th Deccan Horse, after a long illness contracted on active service in France, passed over 30 June 1918 — Mispah.”

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian
EC register
Free BMD
London Gazette, Career history
Probate
Times
Clarke, Reginald Jenner

Birth Year: 1891  
Entered Epsom College: 1905  
Regiment: T/Capt. Essex Regt. 1914-18  
House: HMM?

Researcher: Clarke, Reginald Jenner, s. of dr. Jenner Clarke of Newbury, Berks, b. 1891, F., l. 1910, publisher, T/Capt. Essex Regt. 1914-18

Clarke, Thomas Godfrey Meadows

Birth Year: 1891  
Entered Epsom College: 1901  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.W. Kent Regt. 1914-18  
House: HMM?

Researcher: Clarke, Thomas Godfrey Meadows, s. of T. F. Clarke, surgeon, of Dartford, b. 1891, L.S. and C., l. 1906, occupation unknown, T/Lt. R.W. Kent Regt. 1914-18

Clay, Vivian Hastings

Birth Year: 1892  
Entered Epsom College: 1904  
Regiment: T/Capt. Wilts Regt. Killed in action 1916  
House: G  
Rank: Capt

Clay, Vivian Hastings  2nd Bn Wiltshire Reg  
Died 18/10/16 aged 24  
Buried Thiepval Memorial, France  
Reference: Pier13A

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

CLAY Vivian Hastings Captain  
2Bn Wiltshire Regiment  
18 October 1916

Elizabeth Manterfield
Vivian was born on the 18 October 1892 (GRO Ref: Dec 1892 Wilton 5a 183) at Fovant, Wiltshire, the son of Challoner and Annie Kinnard (nee Harris) Clay. His parents had married in 1889 (GRO Ref: Jun 1899 Bromley 2a 645).

In 1891 Vivian’s parents were living at the Manor House in Fovant. Challoner was 32 and a surgeon, Annie was 25. Vivian’s older brother Richard was 18 Vivian’s paternal grandmother, 57 year old Harriet Clay was living with them along with his father’s brother, Alfred Clay who was a 34 year old farmer and his sister, 27 year old Flora Clay.

In 1901 the family was still at the Manor House. Richard was not at home on the night of the census. 8 year old Vivian had a younger sister Sybil aged 5. His paternal aunt, Flora, aged 37 was living with them and the family employed a cook and a nurse.

Vivian entered Epsom College’s Lower School on 3 May 1904. He progressed into Granville house in the Senior School. He came 16th out of 25 pupils in 1907, 20th out of 24 the following year and 17th out of 25 in 1909. He attained his Lower Certificate, achieving a first class pass in arithmetic. He left in 1909.

In 1911 they were still living at the Manor House, an impressive residence with 13 rooms. Another aunt, Charlotte Godolphin Clay, was living with the family. Neither of Vivian’s siblings was at home. Vivian was described as a Student Ecole (?). He then went on to Durham University.

Vivian was a keen member of the College’s OTC. He had spent three years in the Junior Division where he was assessed as “Efficient” and had spent 1 year 3 terms, 1908 and 1909, in the Senior Division. He had attended the Public School Boys’ annual camp twice. He had left the College’s OTC on 1 Dec 1913 as a Lance Corporal, but did not have his Certificate A. His general efficiency had been very good, and he was first class in musketry in 1913. He had not learnt morse code or semaphore. He also joined the OTC at Durham University as a Lance Cpl. He was able to ride.

He graduated from Durham University with a BA in 1914. He was a good round athlete, and excelled at Fives, rowing and shooting. On leaving university he obtained a post as a Mathematics Master at an Army prep school in Plymouth. Whilst there he commanded a Scout troop and was the games master.

The Lt Col of the Wiltshire Regiment’s Depot in Devizes who had interviewed him on 6 April 1915 considered that Vivian appeared very well suited for a commission, a recommendation with which the OP 3 Wilts Regiment concurred.

Vivian passed his army medical on 12 April 1916 and was confirmed killed on 2 July 1916. He had not learnt morse code or semaphore. He also had normal hearing and vision. He had dentures for part of his upper set of teeth, but was assessed to have enough of his own for efficient chewing.

He obtained a commission in the Special Reserve of the Wiltshire Regiment and after training at Weymouth he joined the 2nd Wiltshires in France in August 1915.

On 29 Feb 1916 Vivian’s father received a telegram telling him that his son had been hospitalised at Treport with “slight influenza”. He recovered sufficiently to be discharged for duty on 6 Mar 1916.

In May 1916 Vivian transferred from the Reserve to a permanent commission in the Regular Army in the 2nd Wiltshires. On 1 July 1916, the first day of the battle of the Somme, he was leading “B” Company when he was hit by shrapnel. The cigarette case in his breast pocket saved his life, taking the impact.

On 27 August he was appointed Temporary Captain, and shared a mutual love and respect with his men. One of his Private soldiers wrote at Christmas 1915 “We have a very good officer in Mr Clay and all the boys are very fond of him”. About the same time Vivian wrote of his men “We have such a splendid lot of men and such a respectable lot at that, that the more one knows of them, the more one admires them.”

He was mentioned for conspicuous gallantry in the field at Trones Wood and received a letter from his Brigadier complimenting him.

The 2nd Bn. of the Wiltshire Regt. was part of 21st Brigade of 30th Division. They had been in action on the 1 July 1916 and remained in the line or in reserve until the end of July. They returned to the Somme at the beginning of October 1916 between Le Sars and Flers.

The battalion diary records the very wet and boggy conditions. 2/Wilts went into the line at Pommies’ Redoubt and advanced to Switch Trench near High Wood on 11 October 1916. From here they went into the Front Line on 13 October, returning to Flers Trench on 15 October 1916 when Vivian joined them. He had only returned from leave 2 weeks before. The Reserve Trench was under heavy shelling on 16/17 October 1916, and they suffered over 80 casualties.

Excerpt from the 2bn War diary 18 Oct 1915: “3.40am 21 Brigade attacked. The 2nd Wiltshires on the left, the 15 King’s Liverpool in the centre and 2nd Yorks to the right, with 19 Manchesters in support. Very little information was forthcoming. C&D Companies reached their objective but failed to take it.

CLAY and his company crossed the Sunken Road and got into the 1st German line. They bombarded a communications trench but were driven back before a block could be made. Again they bombed the trench and again they were driven back on account of a shortage of bombs. They were reinforced by the Camerons, captured the trench and a block was made. The 1st line trench captured in conjunction with 9th Div, of which we held a part, was consolidated. Capt CLAY was killed during consolidation. A 2nd Lieut went out to get information but did not return. Generally the attack failed.”

At first Vivian was reported missing, believed killed, and was confirmed killed on 18 October 1916. This had the added poignancy of being his 24th birthday.

Several personal accounts exist describing how he met his death. His Lieut-Colonel, AL Martin, wrote:

“ It is with the very greatest sorrow, I write to tell you something of the way your son, Captain V. H. Clay met his end....

My Battalion attacked the enemy’s trenches south of Baupaume at 3.40am on October 18th. Your son commanded B company. At 5 a.m. I received a written report from your son, that he had gained his objective, and was "digging in". Later I heard that while urging his men to dig and directing their efforts he was shot in the back and died almost immediately. Under the existing conditions I was unable to get any first hand evidence, but I believe the above to be the facts of this very great misfortune.

I have known your son for nearly a year and have the greatest admiration for his character, although in ordinary times of so little experience, he commanded his company with very great ability. He was so popular with his men that he easily obtained the best from them, he was one of the most popular officers in the Battalion and not only I but everyone in the Regiment will
The Chaplain WA Warner wrote “He was a steady, good Christian and one of the most modest men one has ever known, respected and admired by all the officers and men of his regiment.” Other contemporaries commented on his fearlessness. Corporal Ian Valentine (pseudonym for Ian Hastings Webb Carter) of 5th Cameron Highlanders explained how Vivian was the only officer there and was encouraging his men to dig a communication trench back to the British line. They were most reluctant to do so. Vivian and Cpl Valentine went out into the open in the hope that the men would follow and he was shot immediately.

His body could not be recovered and so his name appears on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing. He is remembered, too, on the village war memorial in Fovant, and on the brass war memorial in St Georges church. An individual memorial in marble is also in the church.

A scroll, 1915 star, British and War medals were sent to his brother Richard at 30, Irving Rd, Southborne, Bournemouth. His effects were sent to his father at the Manor House, Fovant Wiltshire. Probate was granted to his father, but he also died before he sorted out the estate. On 29 Mar 1949 his brother Richard Challoner Cobbe Clay was granted permission to administer the effects valued at £1587 8s 11d.

Although Vivian died unmarried, a website run by a family member indicates that he was engaged to Flora Mary Elizabeth Penruddocke (1891-1960).

Sources
Census returns 1891,1901 and 1911
Epsomian Dec 1916
Epsom Yellow book
Free BMD
Newcastle Journal 3 Nov 1916
Soldiers who died
Probate
TNA file WO 339/47991 Long no. 117723
Family papers on the internet.
Memorial in St Georges Fovant

![Vivian Hastings Clay (1892-1916) at an early age](image)

The attack on the German GIRD TRENCH 18/19 October1916.
Clayton, Lt.-Col. William Douglas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
<th>House:</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Lt.-Col. The Green Howards</td>
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Decorations:

Researcher:

Clayton, Lt.-Col. William Douglas, The Green Howards, s. of Col. W. K. Clayton, C.M.G., of Wakefield, b. 1895, P., l. 1912, desp., employed by the F.B.I.; Ashley Cottage, Oatlands Drive, Weybridge

Clements, William Leitrim

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<th>Birth Year:</th>
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<td></td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1916-18</td>
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Decorations:

Researcher:


Cleveland, Alfred Sherwood

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<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>T/2nd Lt. Sherwood Foresters.</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>2Lt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decorations:

Unit: 2nd Bn Sherwood For

Died 16/10/16 aged 18

Buried Thiepval Memorial, France

Reference: Pier 10C 10D
Alfred was born on 5 Dec 1897 in Nicosia, Cyprus, and was baptised at St Paul's Nicosia on 31 December 1898. He was the son of Dr Robert Achilles Cleveland and his wife Esmeralda nee Philimon. On Alfred's birth certificate his mother calls herself Etsa Philimon. The couple had married on 1 July 1895 in the Greek Orthodox faith at Larnaca in Cyprus, and subsequently registered the marriage on 17 January 1896 at the Office of the Commissioners, Nicosia. They had two children in addition to Alfred: Evelyn Vera born in 1896, and Robert George born in 1900. The couple divorced in 1910 on the grounds of Esmeralda's adultery with Herbert Bovill. After the divorce, she married Bovill and Robert married Grace Darling Hook in 1928.

From April 1908 until April 1912 Alfred was a boarder at Stubbington House School near Fareham in Hampshire, and was recorded there in the 1911 census. The following year he entered Epsom College's Lower School on 26 April, joining Holman House and the Lower III form. He progressed to Granville House in the Senior School. At the time of his registration his father was in the Colonial Service working as Chief Medical Officer in Nicosia, Cyprus. He was withdrawn from the school on 31 October 1914 at the Headmaster’s request, but I have not discovered why. He then spent 14 months with FA Oldaker at the Red House, Haslemere. Oldaker was an Old Epsomian who was both an artist and entomologist and. Alfred had been a member of the College’s OTC. It is likely that Alfred went to Oldaker as a personal tutor to coach him for the Royal Military College entrance exam. He passed in February 1915 being placed at 187th although the number of entrants is not known.

His service details have not survived.

He died in a front line trench north west of Le Transloy. His mother, living at Maenan View, Trefriw, North Wales was listed as his next of kin. She confirmed that her son had not left a will but said she was not going to apply for letters of administration to claim the small amount of money owing to her “glorious boy” because she was clinging to the hope that her darling might only be wounded or taken prisoner. (See photos) 265 men of 2bn Sherwood Foresters were killed in action or died of wounds from 15th June to 16th December 1916. His body was never recovered and he is remembered on the Thiepval memorial to the missing, panels 10C and 10D.

Alfred’s paternal grandmother Jane Goy Cleveland had married Sir William Pink and was living at 3 Pier Mansions, Southsea. She acted as intermediary for communication between the War Office and Robert Cleveland in Cyprus. She assured the War Office that he would really value the bronze memorial plaque they issued in recognition of his late son’s services. His British and victory medals were sent to his father via her address. Alfred’s brother was a midshipman in the Royal Navy and his sister was living in Nicosia.

His effects sent home from the front consisted of a silver cigarette case, a case with a motor license, a military pass, a cheque book, a counter foil cheque book, a note case with photos, a purse with a framed picture, a ring, a wrist watch, a packet of letters, a farthing, a five mark note (souvenir) and a broken pencil.

CWGC recorded his father’s address as Holmdale, Addlestone, Surrey

His mother placed an In Memoriam notice in a newspaper on 16 October 1944.

Sources

CWGC
Census 1901 not found, 1911
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Minutes 1914-1915
Epsom College Yellow Book
Medal Index Card
TNA file WO 339/58296
Clothier, Edward Hugh

Birth Year: 1855
Entered Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: British E. African Rifles 1914-18
House: W
Rank

Clothier, Edward Hugh, s. of H. C. (1855), b. 1877, W., l. 1896, sometime farmer in Australia, Tpr. in Paget’s Horse, S.A. War; served B.E. African Rifles 1914-18, d. in E. Africa 1923

Clube, Cedric Henchman Harrison

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/Capt. I.A.R.O. 1917-19
House: HMM?
Clubbe, Cedric Henchman Harrison, s. of Sir C. P. B. Clubbe, surgeon, of Sydney, b. 1883, W., l. 1901, commercial clerk, T/Capt. I.A.R.O. 1917-19; 20 Park Way, Rickmansworth

Cockburn, John Jenkinson

Entered Epsom College: **1892**

Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1914-18

House: C

Birth Year: **1882**

Rank: Capt

Decorations: T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1914-18, desp.; Boscovean, Hannafore, Looe


Codner, Christopher Cardew

Entered Epsom College: **1909**

Regiment: T/Capt. Somerset L.I. Killed in action 1917

House: C

Birth Year: **1894**

Rank: Capt

Unit: 1st Bn Somerset LI

Decorations: T/Capt. Somerset L.I. Killed in action 1917

Codner, Christopher Cardew Captain, 3 Bn Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's)

3 May 1917

Christopher was born on 4 May 1894 (GRO ref: Apr 1894 Taunton 5c 307) at Woodside, Corfe near Taunton. He was the younger son of Dr John Codner and his second wife, Mabel Clara nee Lock. They had married in 1892, John’s first wife, Letitia, having died in 1890.

In the 1901 census the family was still at Woodside. John Codner was a 43 year old physician and surgeon. Mabel was 50. Christopher’s older brother John Edward S was 7, Christopher was 6 and he had a younger sister, Phyllis, aged 5. The family employed a governess, a cook, a housemaid and a “tweeny” maid.

Christopher was educated at Mr Atkinson’s, Brockhurst, Church Stretton, Shropshire and then spent 2 years and a term at Epsom College from 3 May 1909 to July 1911. Initially he was near the bottom of the Lower fourth form, but the following year he managed to come 8th out of 23 pupils in his year although he was absent for some of the term. Throughout his time at Epsom he was a private in the Epsom College Officer Training Corps. He had achieved good general efficiency and was first class in musketry. In 1910 he attended OTC camp and shot in the Bisley VIII. He had been assessed as “Efficient” once, in 1910.

In the 1911 census Christopher and his mother were visiting the Mutchmore family at 30 Cleveland Square, Hyde Park, Paddington London, whilst his father and sister were at home in Corfe. His sister Phyllis died 19 December 1912.

He qualified for a second class certificate from the College of Preceptors in March 1912, with passes in 7 subjects: Algebra, Arithmetic, English Language, French, Geography, Geometry, and Latin. The College had been established in Bloomsbury, London in the mid nineteenth century to set and raise standards for schoolmasters and this was Christopher’s career choice.

In response to the outbreak of war, he applied for a commission on 8 August 1914. He passed his medical at Taunton on 7 September and was recorded as 5ft 8ins tall, had a 33½in chest with a 4ins expansion. He weighed 147lbs. He had good hearing and 6/6 sight in both eyes with good colour vision. He was very fit. As a result he received a temporary appointment in the Special Reserve, 3rd Bn Somerset Light Infantry.

In February 1915 he was granted a cadetship at Sandhurst. On passing out he was gazetted to his old regiment and went to the front in November 1915. In February 1916 he was appointed ADC to Brigadier-General CB Prowse DSO and remained as such until the Brigadier was killed on 1 July 1916. For a few weeks he acted as adjutant and in November he obtained command of a company and was gazetted acting captain with effect from 15 Nov 1916. In January 1917 he was wounded in the face but
Christopher was leading his men in the attack on Thursday 3 May when he received the wounds from which he died. He was initially reported missing but was then confirmed killed.

His Colonel wrote: “Your son was exceedingly popular with all, and we all grieve very deeply for him. In addition he was a most able officer and is a great loss to me. He had done excellent work for the battalion. Since getting command of a company he always showed the greatest keenness and took the greatest interest in his men, He brought his company to a very high state of efficiency.”

He died intestate, and his father was responsible for administering his estate, which included settling his mess bill and paying his servant and groom’s wages. He left £234 19s 0d.

He was buried in Roeux cemetery, plot D52, which is located east of Arras. He is also remembered on the Corfe war memorial in Somerset.

Sources:
Census returns 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s
Epsom College Yellow Book
Free BMD
Probate
TNA 339/56340 Long number 128506
The Times

Codner, Christopher Cardew, s. of dr. John Codner of Corfe, near Taunton, b. 1894, C., l. 1911, T/Capt. Somerset L.I., killed in action 1917

Codner’s exam results certificate

Coghill, Lt.-Col. Norman Sinclair

Enter Epsom College: 1893

Regiment: Lt.-Col. I.A.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Coghill, Lt.-Col. Norman Sinclair, I.A., s. of dr. J. G. S. Coghill of Ventnor, b. 1880, W., l. 1897, d. 1936

Colborne, Surg. Rear Admiral William John

Enter Epsom College: 1909

Regiment: Surg. Rear Admiral R.N.

Decorations: C.B.
Epsom College: 1909-1913
SURGEON REAR-ADMIRAL WILLIAM JOHN COLBORNE (1894-1971). C.B., K.H.S, R.N., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1909-1912] was the son of Surgeon Rear-Admiral W. J. Colborne, C.B. and brother of Leslie Compton Colborne [Epsom College 1915-1919]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, and during the First World War served as a Surgeon Lieutenant on the battleship H.M.S. Barham at the Battle of Jutland (1916). After the War he was posted to the battleship H.M.S. Resolution (1919-1920) before being appointed to the Royal Marine Infirmary at Deal. In 1928, he was posted to the Royal Naval Hospital at Plymouth as Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist. After this, he served as Surgeon Specialist in the Flagship of the Home Fleet, H.M.S. Rodney until 1942 when he was given command of the Royal Naval Auxiliary Hospital, Sherborne, with the rank of Surgeon Captain. In 1947, he was appointed Senior Medical Officer (Surgery) at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, but one year later was promoted Surgeon Rear-Admiral, and appointed Medical Officer in charge of the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth. He was appointed Deputy Surgeon General of the Royal Navy, and Inspector General of Royal Naval Hospitals. He retired from the Royal Navy in 1951 and was appointed Administrative Medical Officer to the Regional Hospital Board for Wales. He was created C.B. in 1950 and made an Honorary Surgeon to H.M. King George VI.

Coleby, Cdr. (E) Francis John Antony
Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Cdr. (E) R.N.
Rank

Coleman, Frank
Birth Year: 1876
Entered Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank

Coleman, Frank (1876-1963).
Epsom College: 1891-1894
FRANK COLEMAN (1876-1963). M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), F.D.S.R.C.S. [Epsom College 1891-1893] was the son of Alfred Coleman, F.R.C.S. of Sutton, Surrey. He received his medical training at St Bartholomew’s, Charing Cross and the Royal Dental Hospitals. During the First World War he served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the R.A.M.C. in France and Belgium, and was awarded the Military Cross (M.C.). He was appointed Dental Surgeon to the Metropolitan Hospital and the London Hospital for Children in 1903, and Consultant Dental Surgeon to St Bartholomew’s Hospital and Consultant Dental Surgeon and Lecturer in Materia Medica at the Royal Dental Hospital in 1907. He was a Member of the Council of the British Dental Association, President of the Metropolitan Branch of the British Dental Association, and a Foundation Fellow of the Faculty of Dental Surgery, Royal College of Surgeons. He was also President of the Section of Odontology of the Royal Society of Medicine, and an
Examiner in Dental Surgery for the University of London and the Royal College of Surgeons. He was the author of Materia Medica for Dentists (1933), which by 1936 had run to seven editions.

Arthur Vincent Colledge

Worcester Regt attd 45 Bn Royal Fusiliers

Arthur was born 8 Aug 1898 (GRO ref: Sept 1898 Stroud 6a 328) at 15 Lansdown, Stroud, the son of Thomas Charles Colledge and Kate nee Vincent. His father was a dentist.

In 1901 the family was living at 15 Lansdown, Stroud. Thomas Charles was a 40 year old dentist. Kate was 38 years old. Arthur was 2 and had an older sister Hilda aged 4.

In the 1911 census Arthur was recorded as a 12 year old student boarder at Sangeen School, Derby Rd, Bournemouth. When he attested for military service he listed his schools as Wycliffe College, Stonehouse Jan 1910 to Apr 1911, Sangeen School, Manor Park Rd, Bournemouth April 1911 to July 1913 and Dean Close School, Cheltenham Sep 13 to Oct 1915. But omitted to mention that he had attended Epsom College from 19 September 1912 until Christmas of that year. He spent the term in the Upper III form in Fayrer House.

He had been a corporal in Dean Close Contingent of OTC, but did not attain certificate A.

He enlisted in 1915 and passed his medical board on 2 Dec. He was 17 years old. 67½inches tall, 31inch chest expanding to 36 ins. He weighed 127 lbs. He had good hearing and teeth, 6/12 vision, (his file has a note that this was corrected to 6/6. Did this mean he was provided with glasses?)

In 1916 Arthur started to show symptoms that could have been tuberculosis. He provided a sample of sputum to the TB dispensary at Leicester on 21 October, but it was found to be clear. He had a period of sick leave from 21 Dec -27 December 1916.

He became a Gentleman Cadet at the Royal Military College 14828612, which required £35 towards the expenses of cadet uniform. He was then gazetted to be 2nd Lieut with 6th battalion Reserve Worcestershire Regiment 16 Aug 1916. He was posted to South Raglan Barracks, Devonport.

On 3 Aug 1918 he was attached to 45 Royal Fusiliers. According to a newspaper obituary, he took part in several of the important engagements in France and was badly gassed. After a period of hospital treatment in England he volunteered for the North Russian relief force. He was killed in action on 10 August 1919.

His parents sent a telegram to the War Office seeking particulars of their son’s death. They were told that 3 officers had been wounded the same day, 10 Aug 1919, who might be able to provide particulars. His mother also wrote to the Casualty Section, Finsbury Court, London but she was told that details of his death had not been communicated to the War Office. It was suggested that she tried writing to the OC N Russian Force. It is likely that he was killed in the Battle of Troitsa which took place on 10 August. He was reported to have been buried near Seltse Northern Russia, but the details of his grave were lost. He is remembered on the Archangel memorial commemorates the 219 British officers and men who died but have no known grave. At the time of the CWGC recording his death, his parents were living at Elmsleigh, 3 Watkin Road, Boscombe, Hampshire.

Elizabeth Manterfield
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
<th>Researcher</th>
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<tr>
<td>Collings, Lt.-Cdr. Basil d'Auvergne</td>
<td>1884, C., l. 1899; Grange Cottage, Tangier Road, Guildford</td>
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<td>Lt.-Cdr. R.N. 1914-18</td>
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<td>Collins, James Adolphus</td>
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<td>T/Capt. Rifle Bde. 1914-18</td>
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<td>Collum, Rowland William</td>
<td>1887</td>
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<td>T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1915-18</td>
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Collum, Rowland William (1874- ? )
Epsom College: 1887-1893
ROWLAND WILLIAM COLLUM (born 1874), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1887-1892] was the son of Dr Robert Collum of Surbiton, Surrey, and the brother of Archie Tillyer Collum, F.R.C.S. [Epsom College 1880 - 1886]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital. He served as a Civil Surgeon with the South African Field Force in the Boer War, winning the South Africa Medal and three clasps. During the First World War he joined the R.A.M.C. as a Captain (1915-1918). He was a Consultant Anaesthetist at Charing Cross Hospital, the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, and the National Dental Hospital.

Colman, Charles Wyndham Tawell
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1908
Researcher:

Colmer, Cecil
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. 1917-18
Researcher:

Coltart, Capt. Cyril George, Bucknill
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: Capt. R.N.
Researcher:

OE Doctors
Coltart, Capt. Cyril George, Bucknill, C.V.O.
Conway, Brian Wiseman

Birth Year: 1894  Entered Epsom College: 1908  House: G  Rank: Capt

Conway, Brian Wiseman

Died 04/10/17 aged 23
Buried Tyne Cot, Belgium
Reference: Pan. 120 - 124

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

**Elizabeth Manterfield**

**CONWAY, Brian Wiseman**

22 bn Manchester Regiment
4 Oct 1917

Brian was born at Longsight, Manchester on 20 July 1894 (GRO Ref: Mar 1892 Altrincham 8a 203), the son of Dr. Basil Wiseman Conway and his wife Jane nee Forsyth. His parents had married in 1892 (GRO RefMar 1892 Altrincham 8a 203). In 1901 the family was living in Newton Avenue, Longsight. Basil was a 40 year old surgeon, although earlier census returns had shown him as a clerk. He had been a student at Owen's College Manchester and took his MRCS and LRCP in 1889. Jane was 318 6 year old Brian had two younger siblings Guy aged 4 and Nancy 3. The family employed 3 servants.

Brian entered Epsom College on 1 May 1908, initially joining the Upper III form in Holman House in the Lower School and progressing to Granville House in the Senior School. His home address when he registered for the school was Overton House, Longsight, Manchester. This house was in Newton Avenue, Longsight. He was a spiritual boy and won the Carr Divinity prize in 1910. His brother Guy joined him at Epsom on 16 September 1909 but died in the Infirmary on 16 September 1910 after a short but painful illness borne with uncomplaining courage. Brian left the school in April 1911.

He studied medicine at Manchester University and was also in the University O.T.C. Oct. 1913 to Oct. 1914.

He made a short service attestation to join the army on 7 September 1914. Brian was an unusually tall man for the time at 6ft 1½inches, he weighed 162 lbs, had a 35inch chest with a 2 inch expansion. He had a fresh complexion with brown hair and hazel eyes. He was Church of England. His medical board on 7 September 1914 found him fit for service with the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC). He demonstrated his ability through a rapid series of promotions: to Corporal 20 November 1914, to Sergeant 8 Jan 1915, to Staff Sergeant 20 Feb 1915, Quarter-Master 5 May 1915 and Sergeant Major on 8 June 1915. He was posted to France 25 Aug 1915.

He was discharged on 7 Nov 1915 having been appointed to a commission in the 1/7 Reserve Durham Light Infantry. His total service at home and abroad came to 1 year 62 days.

He joined 1/7th Battalion Durham Light Infantry on 7 June 1916. He was wounded in action on 6 Sept 1916 but recovered and was fit for general service.

He had leave for Christmas, and left his unit on 17 December, for Boulogne and reached home on 19 December. He became unwell on 27 Dec 1916 with flu like symptoms and enlarged glands in his neck, this persisted for three weeks. It was diagnosed as influenza but in addition he was suffering from persistent sleeplessness, loss of appetite and a general nervous debility. Any sudden noise caused him to perspire and to be “nervy” as the doctor described it for some time afterwards. He was also inclined to be forgetful. He lost 7-9lbs in weight in two months. He had a rapid pulse and a cough. He was also suffering from pyrexia (increased body temperature).

He was signed off on sick leave for three weeks at the beginning of January with epidemic influenza, but today he might be considered as showing battle fatigue. Although improving, he was not found fit for general service until his medical board on 21 March 1917 which authorised his return to his Battalion.

He joined 30 Infantry Brigade Depot at Etaples on 7 April 1917 and joined his Battalion in the field on 15 April 1917. He was appointed acting Captain 20 July 1917 of 22nd Battalion Manchester Regiment. He was on leave in UK 23 Aug until 2 September 1917.

Brian was killed 4 Oct. 1917 Polygon Wood, which was the assembly point for the renewed attack in the third Battle of Ypres advancing against the main line of the ridge east of Zonnebeke. The Allies had to cope with every disadvantage of the terrain and the weather as well as the enemy. His body was not found and he is remembered on the Tyne Cot memorial Panel 120 to
The inventory of personal items returned from the front included: 1 leather wallet, papers, photos, 1 cheque book, 1 New Testament, 1 Treasury note with case, 1 photo case containing a photo plus photos in a paper case, 1 comb, 1 counter-foil cheque book, 1 crucifix in a leather wallet, 1 court plaster (fabric coated on one side with an adhesive preparation, eg isinglass and glycerin, used on the skin for medical purposes), 1 pair of eye glasses in a case.

Probate was granted to his father on 16 March 1918, and his effects were valued at £402 13s 2d. He was awarded the 1915 star, the British and Victory medals.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
Epsom register m/s and printed
Free BMD.
Medal Index card.
Probate
TNA file: WO 339/46882

Cooke, Evelyn Cecil Whitehall

Cooke, Reginald Arthur

Cooke, Reginald Vincent
Cooper Smith, Edward James

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.A.
House: C
Rank: 2Lt
Decorations:

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cooper Smith, Edward James, s. of E. Cooper Smith, occupation unknown, of Midhurst, b. 1876, P., l. 1892, occupation unknown, T/2nd Lt. R.A., employed by Min. of Labour, 1915-18.

Cooper, George Spencer

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1909
House: C
Rank: 2Lt
Decorations:

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Cooper George Spencer
Died 17/02/17 aged 20
Buried Thiepval Memorial, France
Reference: Pier11A 11D

Elizabeth Manterfield

COOPER George Spencer 2nd Lieut
6th Bn Northants Regt
17 Feb 1917

George was born in Brightlingsea in Essex, on 2 July 1897 son of Dr Henry E Spencer Cooper and his wife Catherine.

In the 1901 census the family was living in a property in Broadway, Yaxley near Peterborough. 37 year old Henry was a physician. George’s mother was 35. George was three and he had an older sister Katherine who was 7. The family employed a nurse maid, a housemaid and a coachman.

In 1910 father was medical officer of health in Peterborough. In the 1911 census the family was living an 8 roomed property in Broadway, Yaxley, Peterborough.

George entered Epsom College Lower School in Holman House 16 September 1909 and was recorded there in the 1911 census. He progressed to Carr House in the Upper School.

At first he did quite well academically coming 13th out of 23 boys in the Lower Third form, and 8th out of 25 in the Upper Third form. He also had a piece of work shown to the Head that year as being of particular merit and won the Lower School Divinity and History and the Drawing prize. Thereafter he finished each year in the bottom group of his form. Nevertheless he passed his Lower School Certificate in 1914. In 1915 he was made a House prefect.

In 1913 he became L Cpl Bugler in the OTC.

He was in the Junior VIII Gymnastics teams 1911 and 1912. He played in the first Rugby XV for Michaelmas term 1915, and the Epsomian Dec 1915 commented that he was “probably leaving this term and would be greatly missed especially in next term’s house ties.” His critique described him as hard working and heavy forward, rough in his play; a useful collar.” He was also a corporal in the School’s OTC. He left at Xmas 1915 to join the army.

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He was also a corporal in the School’s OTC. He left at Xmas 1915 to join the army.

George enlisted as Private 6788 on 2 Dec 1915 and served at home in the Army Reserve in 28 London Rifles (the Artist Rifles). He served for 126 days for 7s 6d a day. He was posted at his own request on 24 Jan 1916. There was no information on his file to explain the reason for his request, but there was a prevailing feeling that the war would be short and an impatience amongst young men that it might end before they had had a chance to “do their bit”. It may be that he was frustrated by being on home service. He was transferred on 28 July 1916 and transferred again on 2 Sept 1916. Meanwhile he hoped to be accepted as an
He applied to the Officer Cadet Unit on 13 June 1916. He was accepted as Cadet 6788. He was assessed as fit, was 5ft 7¾ ins tall, weighed 11st 12lbs, had a 33in chest which expanded to 37ins and had 6/6 vision in both eyes. He was discharged to a commission in the 3bn Northants Regiment on 4 Sept 1916. It is not clear when he was transferred to 6 Bn. 6 Bn was one of the Service battalions and part of 54 Division, 18 (Eastern) Brigade.

On 17 February 1917, the 6th Northamptonshire Regiment was the right hand assault battalion at Boom Ravine, near Miraumont, with the 11th Royal Fusiliers on their left. Whilst forming up before dawn, the German artillery bombarded the two battalions and they suffered many casualties. When the British assault commenced the German barbed wire was found to be largely in tact. The attacking companies were channelled into gaps in the wire and became easy targets for the German machine-gunners. George managed to get through the wire but was killed just in front of the German trenches. His body was recovered and buried but his grave must have been destroyed later as the battles raged on. His name is included on Thiepval Pier 11A -11D.

He is remembered on the Yaxley war memorial in Huntingdonshire and there is also a marble plaque in his memory in Yaxley church inscribed:

“In ever loving memory of George Spencer Cooper 2nd Lieut 6th battn Northamptonshire Regiment who was killed at Miraumont, France at the Battle of Boom Ravine February 17th 1917 while gallantly leading the men of his platoon in an attack on the German trenches, aged 19 years. Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.”

He was awarded the British War and Victory Medals which were sent to his father at Fernside, Holland Road, Clacton on Sea in 1922.

The surviving correspondence on George’s National Archives file gives an insight to the practical concerns the loss of a son caused. His father wrote to the War Office on 4 July 1917 asking about compensation for his son’s death because he would have entered the medical profession and in the event of his own death would have supported his mother and sister. He saw it as his duty to his family to ensure that they received their proper share of any funds that might be available from the public or any other sources. The full text of the letter is below.

The correspondence also demonstrated the importance of any information on their military life, of which the civilian population generally had little understanding. Major Podmore, George’s Commanding Officer (CO), had written at length to Dr Cooper and his affection for George is apparent. George’s father comments on the comfort that the letter had brought. “To me, the father, the loss of my only son is irreparable but I suppose I am only one of thousands of fathers who have given as much for their king and country. I enclose a copy of a letter I received from his superior officer and written a few days after my boy’s death which will give you some idea of the boy we have lost. To me this letter written by a gentleman I had never seen or even heard of before was the greatest comfort one man could give to another under the circumstances and both my wife and I will ever be grateful for it.”

Ewart Alan Mackintosh’s poem “In Memoriam” captures these relationships eloquently.

The letter is reproduced below with permission of the National Archives.

Sources
Census returns 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
TNA file WO 339/69019 Long no. 145317

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cooper, George Spencer, s. of dr. H. E. S. Cooper of Peterborough, b. 1897, L.S. and C., XV, l. 1915, T/2nd Lt. Northants Regt., killed in action 1916.
Commanding Officer’s letter, page 1

Commanding Officer’s letter, page 2

Commanding Officer’s letter, page 3
**Cooper, Harold St. Clare**

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*Researcher:*

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**Cope, John Harold**

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**Corby, Thomas Richard Bruce**

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*Researcher:*

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**Corner, Francis William**

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*Researcher:*

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*Cooper, Harold St. Clare, brother of L. K. C. (1900), b. 1888, W., l. 1904, occupation unknown, Lieut. (S.R.), Grenadier Guards 1914-18.*


Corry, Alick Ivan

AKC Alick Ivan Pte PS/1383 7bn Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)
Died of wounds: 18 Nov 1916

Alick, known to his family as Ivan, was born in Kingston, (not far from Ballarat) Victoria, Australia on 21 Feb 1896 the son of Dr William Corry and his wife Lydia nee Meakin. Ivan’s father had been born in 1850 in County Tyrone Northern Ireland and had been a doctor in Omagh. He married Lydia in 1887 in Croydon who was the daughter of a HM Customs Inspector in London. They returned to Ireland where their two eldest sons were born. At some time after 1889 the family moved to South Lambeth and William had a practice in Clapham for a number of years before going out to Australia between 1892 and 1895. William died on 8 March 1900 in Mount Egerton, Victoria. Lydia was pregnant with their seventh child and it was presumably for this reason that Ivan and his family returned to England.

Ivan was one of seven children: Ernest William Clarence born in 1887 and Harold Claude born in 1889 in County Tyrone. Wilfred Leslie was born in 1891 in South Lambeth, Eric Vere was born in 1894 in Victoria Australia as were Ivan and Darryl Cedric born in 1898. Eileen Marjorie was born in 1900 in Croydon, Surrey.

In 1901 Lilly Corry (officially named Lydia after her mother) was a 39 year old widow living on her own means, Wilfred, Eric, Ivan, Darryl and baby Eileen were living with her at Lyndhurst, Hamilton Road, Sidcup. Ivan was enrolled at Epsom College Holman House on 1 May 1908, by his mother who was living at 9 Ceylon Road, Westcliffe on Sea. However he became a Home Boarder from Sept 1908 after his mother moved to Sutton. He was in Carr House in the Upper School. In 1909 he was placed 23rd out of 25 boys in the Lower Third and maintained this position the following year in the Upper Third form. He left the school in April 1911

Ivan’s brothers had also attended Epsom College: Ernest 1901-1906, Wilfred 1902-1909 and Eric 1904-1913 and Darryl would join him from 1909-1915. Wilfred had been a Foundation Scholar. Ivan applied for a Foundation Scholarship several times but was turned down. His mother had hardly any means, most of what there was being derived from a medical charity. She endeavoured to supplement this where she could but was hampered because her eyesight was poor and deteriorating. She had subscribed for several years. Darryl was unsuccessful in his application in 1908 but was awarded a scholarship in 1909.

In 1911, 15 year old Ivan was living with his mother and 19 year old brother Wilfred in an 8 roomed house “Homedeane” in Robin Hood Lane, Sutton. His maternal grandmother 75 year old Lydia Meakin and aunt, Amy Meakin, a 45 year old teacher, were also living in the house and they employed a Lady’s Help.

He enlisted at Westminster 1915 into Royal Fusiliers City of London regiment in which he manned a Lewis Gun. Ivan and his brothers shared an interest in technology especially radio and aircraft so he was keen to get into the Royal Flying Corps but he was wounded and died before his application could progress.

He died of wounds, and is buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery Grave II A 10. He is remembered on the Sidcup war memorial

CWGC recorded him as son of Dr and Mrs Corry 16 Carlton Road, Sidcup. He was awarded the British and Victory medals.

Sources:
Census 1901,1911
CWGC
Free BMD
Medal Index cards
Soldiers who died

Corry, Daryll Cedric
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: Lt. R.G.A. 1915-18
House: HMM?
Rank

Corry, Eric Vere
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. 1918
House: HMM?
Rank

Corry, Ernest William Clarence
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Lieut R.N. And T/Capt R.A.F. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank
Cousens, Lt.-Col. (Brevet Col.), Robert Baxter

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.
Rank: 

Researcher:


Robert B Cousens (RBC) was born in Wanstead in Essex 25th March 1880 (GRO West Ham 4a 147) the son of John Schott Cousens (1835-1913) and his wife Mary Strother Hughes (1840-1924). In the 1911 Census of England John S Cousens is described as a retired Major, possibly in the Territorials, although in the 1901 census has his occupation as a retired merchant. He and his wife had had 12 children of whom only 9 were living in 1911.

In September 1893 RBC joined the College having been entered by his mother who was then living at 12 Grove Rd., Wanstead, Essex. He went into Mr Gardner’s E.W.H. House when he arrived, presumably a junior House, but later moved to Wilson. He was clearly a bright young lad and started in form Lower III but then having won the form prize in the Christmas term he appears to have been moved up to the Lower IV where he is found at the end of his first year. In 1894 in the Upper IV he again won the form prize. In 1895, the year in which it was noted in the College Register he was confirmed, he was in form Shell being placed 7/23 in the end of year order and 3/20 in set CB2. In Modern Middle 1 next year he won the Form Prize for Botany coming 1/10 in form placing. He passed the London Matriculation in 1897 and was made a school prefect. In the 1897-98 seasons he played for the first XV and in 1898 the cricket XI10. He left the College from the 6th Form on the science side in July 1898 having won the Brande Good Conduct Prize 1.

After leaving the College he went up to Clare College, Cambridge 2. However in May 1900 he was nominated by the University and College to join the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery as a 2nd Lieutenant and so began his career in the regular army. In December 1903 he was promoted to Lieutenant (LG 27528 p 1216) in the 45th Battery RFA10 and appears to have served in India becoming adjutant to the Regiment in July 1907 (LG 28044 p 5119) a role in which he served until 1910.

In 1903 as a young lieutenant he married Esther Cummins (1879-1968) in India. They were to have 4 children, 3 sons and a daughter. The eldest boy Charles Hughes was born in Poona India later to be educated at Wellington College and Sandhurst. Commissioned in 1924 he joined the 2nd Bn. Sherwood Foresters in India. However he resigned his commission in 1927 and went to Australia 6 where he became a radio broadcaster before joining the Australian Imperial Force before WW2. He was taken prisoner at Singapore, incarcerated in Changi and then Burma. When the Japanese found out he was a broadcaster he was sent to Tokyo, where under threat of torture and death he worked on a propaganda program with an American woman of Japanese parentage, Iva Toguri, also known as ‘Tokyo Rose’. They apparently worked together to undermine the regime in their broadcasts although the exact nature of these clandestine activities is obscure. When eventually he was repatriated to Australia he was tried for treason but the case collapsed when the level of duress he had been subjected to became clear.

In April 1911 RBC was promoted to Captain and from November of that year served as adjutant to the 1st Lowland Brigade RFA (LG28549 p8164). In April 1915 he was serving as a Major, Deputy Assistant Adjutant in the HQ of the Adjutant General and Quarter-Master’s General Staff, 52 Division (LG 29157 p4509). On 5 April, the 52nd (Lowland) Division RFA, a Territorial Division consisting of three Scottish Brigades with men drawn from the Scottish Lowlands, was warned that it would go on overseas service and on 7th May this was confirmed, the destination being Gallipoli. The units embarked at Liverpool and Devonport between 18 May and 8th June. On 22nd May a troop train carrying the battalion HQ and two Companies of the 1/7th Royal Scots Territorials, part of the 156th (Scottish Rifles) Brigade of the Division crashed in an accident at Quintinshill near Gretna on the Scottish Borders3. Three officers and 207 men died and five officers and 219 were injured when the wreckage caught fire. Fewer than 70 men survived the crash unscathed which was later blamed on the signallers’ failure. It is recorded as the worst railway accident to have occurred on the British rail system. The first units of the 52nd Division, now somewhat depleted, eventually landed in Gallipoli (Cape Helles) on 6th June.

RBC was not directly involved in the rail disaster although he did not arrive in the Dardanelles until 1st July 1915 4. There he joined the Division which had been sent to strengthen the 29th Division RHA. The 29th had taken severe losses at Cape Helles where it had landed at the start of the Dardanelles campaign. He served as Brigade Major, 52nd Divisional Artillery 5.
On 23 August the artillery at Cape Helles was reorganized being divided for tactical purposes into right and left groups S. The left group was "commanded by Col. Stockdale with Major RB Cousens as his Staff Officer". RBC remained in this post until posted away as DAA and QMG of the 52nd Division on 7 December 1915 and from then on he served as a staff officer. As the Gallipoli Campaign was wound up the Division moved to Egypt near Cairo (LLT).

Clearly he was a very good staff officer and received considerable recognition for his services. In 1916 he served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force which took part in the Battle of Romani on the 4-5 August. Their primary concern was the defence of the Suez Canal which was threatened by the Turkish 3rd Division supported by German and Austrian troops. Much of the fighting was carried out by the Australian and New Zealand troops and considerable assistance was provided by the Egyptian Army. Staff liaison would have been a key factor as the campaign progressed and General Sir Archibald Murray the C.in C. Middle East Land Forces gave recognition to the excellent Staff work which took place in the 1916 campaign in his Despatch. RBC was thus Mentioned in Despatches (MID) for the first time (LG 29845 p11802).

In March 1917 he became Assistant Adjutant with the rank of T/Lt Colonel (LG 30051 p4312). The Division was involved in the three Battles for Gaza with operations continuing against the Turks in Palestine. In June of that year General Sir Edmund Allenby took over as C.in C. of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force and on 11th December operations culminated with his entry into Jerusalem as the enemy were driven out (LG 30492 p1187-1195). Again RBC was MID (LG 30480 p929). In addition, in the 1918 New Year Honours List, he was awarded the DSO (EG 13186 p25).

The division remained in the Palestine region near Arsuf until March 1918 when it handed over to the Indian Division and moved to France finally arriving near Abbeville in April (LLT). It took part in the fierce fighting which occurred during the closing stages of the war, from the Battle of Albert through to the Canal du Nord and the final advance into Artois. RBC was MID by Field Marshall Haig in his Despatch covering the period from February to September 1918 (LG 31077 p14925) and again in his Despatch covering September 1918 until March 1919.

In December 1918 the demobilization of the Division began and in January 1919 he was moved to the Reserve with the rank of Brevet Lt/Col. The Division reformed as part of the Territorial Army in April 1920 (LLT). In due course he received his war medals which joined the DSO, the 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal with Emblem to signify his four MID’s.4

In March 1922 he was restored to the establishment and in 1924 was seconded from the regular forces to the TA (LG32946 p4671) in Royal Artillery. From the 27 May 1924 he served as Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quarter Master General. In 1927 he was promoted to the substantive rank of Lt/Col. and then in November 1930 to full Colonel (LG 33666 p 7689). In 1933 he served for six months in command of the troops on the China station and was granted the local rank of Brigadier whilst in command (LG 33954 p4298). In February 1934 he retired on retired pay.

In July 1939, then on the Regular Army Reserve as a retired Colonel aged 59, RBC volunteered for service in the General Duties Branch of the RAF Volunteer Reserve and was given the rank of Honorary Flight Lieutenant. (LG 34652 p5486). It was not uncommon for retired officers to serve in this way thus releasing younger men for active service and the writer is aware from his own experience that the practice continued well into the 1950’s. However he relinquished this honorary commission in October that year and it was announced that he had retired on age grounds in July 1941 (LG 35227 p4260) although it seems that he continued to serve in the reserve until shortly before his unexpected death, as the Gazette noted that he would revert to Colonel from 21st January 1943. Unfortunately by the time of the announcement (LG 35899 p745) in February he had died. At the time of his death it seems likely that he was working at the War Office and therefore temporarily residing in London. He was suddenly taken ill and admitted to St Thomas’s Hospital where he died following an operation. The probate records state that his home address then was in Edinburgh and his estate was left to his widow Esther. She died in Eastbourne in 1963.

Sources:
General Register Office – GRO
The Long, Long Trail (LLT)
London Gazette (LG)
1Epsom College Yellow Books
2War List Univ Cambridge 1914-18. Clare College: Forces War Records
3Wikipedia
4Medal Roll Index
529th Div. Artillery War record & Honours 1915-1918: Lt Col RM Johnson 1921
7Ancestry POW lists
8Auspostalhistory.com
9CWGC Malta Memorial
10 Epsom College Register 1855-1905

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In 1902 Cowan won a place here as a Foundationer in a public election for which the ballot paper still exists:

Cowan J.A., 11 years old: 120 Swinley Road, Wigan: Son of Richard H. Cowan, MRCS, LSA, who practised for 17 years at Wigan, and died in 1900, leaving a widow and three children. There are very limited means. This was the last of several applications and the boy was lucky to be elected, since this meant free education, board and uniform with a guaranteed chance of university.

Our printed Register adds:

Captain John Archer Cowan came to the College in 1902, the son of Dr. R.H. Cowan of Wigan. He was born in 1890, entered Forest House and left in 1908 to study Medicine at University College Hospital and London University, where he qualified M.B. and B.S. before joining the RAMC. He died in 1937. In 1908 he was awarded a closed scholarship to University College Hospital. In 1906 he had won the book for a Junior Essay Prize.

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<th>Cowen, Hugh Francis Durbin</th>
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Cowen, Lt.-Col. Edward George Huxley


Cox, Henry Procter


Crichton, Arthur John Moncreiffe


Crichton, Herbert Clowe

Crichton, Herbert Clowe

Died 07/10/16 aged 33
Buried Dartmoor Cem, France
Reference: P2.RB.G6
Herbert Crowe Crichton Second Lieutenant
18 Service bn Manchester Regiment
Died: 7 October 1916

Herbert was born at 3 Cambridge Villas, Twickenham, Middlesex on 22 June 1883 (GRO Ref: Sept 1883 Brentford 3a 64), the third child of George Clouse Crichton and his wife Agnes Sophia nee Unwin. He was baptised at St Stephen’s East, Twickenham on 15 August 1883. His mother died early in 1884, and George married, Elizabeth Mary G E Piggott in 1893 (Dec 1893 Brentford 3a 181). When he was four years old, Herbert had Scarlet Fever, a form of streptococcal infection which was often fatal before the use of antibiotics.

In the 1891 census the family was still living at 3 Cambridge Villas, Twickenham. George was 44 years old and working as general medical practitioner with three young children to care for: Janeta aged 11, Arthur 9, and Herbert 7. Herbert’s aunt, Emma Unwin, was living with them presumably to help care for the children and they employed a cook and a housemaid. Herbert entered the Lower III form of Epsom College’s Lower School on 4 May 1897. His father’s address when he registered was 96 Earls Court Road, Kensington. He finished his first term in fifth position out of 23 boys in his form. He progressed into Granville House in the Upper School and in 1898 finished in 23rd place out of 25 boys in the Lower Fourth. During his time at Epsom he managed to improve his position so that when he left in July 1901 he had achieved 8th position out of 12 boys in the Modern Middle II form and had had several pieces of work selected to show the Headmaster.

In the 1901 census Herbert’s father and stepmother were living at 96 Earls Court Rd, Kensington. His brother Arthur was a medical student in Scotland and Herbert was at Epsom College.

After leaving Epsom College in July 1901 he lived in India where he was a master at Bishop Cotton School, Bangalore, South India. He joined the Bangalore Rifle Volunteers on 21 May 1909 and was commissioned as a lieutenant. In July 1912 he left India for England thus becoming supernumery for the volunteers although he remained on their list. He entered Oxford University as a non-collegiate student and joined the Oxford University OTC in October 1913 where he became a corporal. He applied for a Temporary Commission on 10 July 1915. His preference was to join the infantry either in 16 bn Royal Fusiliers or 7bn Royal West Kent Regiment. He said he could ride a little and although fit for general service he needed glasses for reading. He was commissioned as a temporary 2nd Lieutenant in the 18th battalion of the Manchester Regiment, part of the 90th Brigade, 30th Division.

Herbert joined his battalion on 21 June 1916 at Saisseval along with 2nd Lieutenants SJ Brown and JS Partington whilst the battalion was training. On 1 October they were at Flesselles in France practising field operations, a Brigade scheme. These continued until 3 October when they were moved by transport to Talmasin. From there they were taken by buses supplied by the French army to Buiré-sue-Ancr. 5 October was spent training and on 6 October they marched to Fricourt Camp just north of King George’s Hill (known as Point 110 before the King visited the vantage point in August 1916). Just as the last of D Company was entering the camp in the darkness, one of the men trod on a bomb lying on the ground, which exploded. Private 10682 Thomas Morrison-an original “Pal” from Harpurhey in Manchester was killed outright and 2nd Lt Herbert Clowe Crichton was so badly injured he died the next day at 15 MD Station. Major Godlee, 2ic and 9 Other Ranks were also wounded. All the Officers and men attended his funeral on 8 October at Dartmoor Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt.

His Commanding Officer wrote: " Your son had only been with us three months. During that time the battalion has been engaged in severe fighting, in which he had borne his part nobly. He was a good and promising officer…. I did not know your son as well as the chaplain who lived with the battalion did, but I met him from time to time, and had come to admire his conscientiousness and earnest spirit,”

When Herbert applied for a commission he had given his contact address as c/o Mrs Blamire-Brown, The Vicarage, Bearsted, nr Maidstone Kent. Frederick Blamire-Brown was the vicar. Mrs Blamire-Brown received the telegram notifying his next of kin of his death and had to arrange for his father to be informed.

Herbert’s father of 5 Longridge Road, South Kensington applied for probate on 8 Dec 1916. His effects were valued at £245 9s 7d.

Sources:
Census returns 1891,1901
CWGC
Epsom register m/s
Epsom College Yellow book
TNA WO 339/33437 long no.101377
TNA WO 95/2339/3 18bn Manchester Regt War Diary
Probate

CROMBIE James MacHattie, 2nd Lieutenant 3bn attd 10th Battalion Queen’s Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)
Died of wounds: 2 July 1917 aged 20

James was born on 23 June 1897 at Highbden, Foots Cray, Kent (GRO ref Sept 1897 Bromley 2a 472), the third and youngest son of Dr James Crombie and his wife Mary Martha Marshall nee Osborne.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Highbden, Foots Cray, Kent. James senior was a 44 year old general practitioner trained in Edinburgh. Mary was 38. Five year old James had 3 siblings: Mary Gladys aged 9, William Maurice aged 7, and Ian Osborne aged 6. They employed just a cook.

In the 1911 census the family was living in an 11 roomed house at 20, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup. This was probably Highbden as a 1907 directory records a Highbden in Hatherley Rd. James senior was still working as a general medical practitioner. His wife was 48. Grace 19, Jan 16 and James 13 were at home on the night of the census. The family employed a cook and a maid. The census confirmed that James and Mary had had four children, all living.

James was educated initially at Merton College, Sidcup and then followed his brother to Epsom College, entering Forest House as a Junior Scholar on 21 Sept 1911. Throughout his time at Epsom he took a full and active part in school life. In 1913 he was made a joint Prefect with responsibilities in the Lower School, a role he took very seriously showing an interest in all that concerned the younger boys under his care. In Michaelmas Term 1915, he was made Head Prefect and exercised a very great influence in the school during his last year. As Senior Prefect and Head Boy of his House he provided valuable assistance to a new Housemaster, and led them to win the rugby shield. He also inspired them by his example as the best gymnast in the school and “showed the way in everything towards soundness in mind and body.” He was an active member of the Debating Society and on 21 October 1914 opposed the motion that “War is not a misfortune”. He based his argument on the damage that war could cause to nations’ economies and heritage and advocated that nations should settle their disputes by arbitration. Unfortunately the motion was carried by a large majority (18 to 4 in favour).

He was Captain of Rugby 1915 having played for the first XV the previous year.

Epsom College had assessed him as “Not brilliant, but a steady worker”. This is perhaps a modest assessment of his achievements. He was always in the top third of his form. He achieved his Lower School Certificate in 1912 with first class passes in additional maths, arithmetic and Latin. He passed his School Certificate the following year, the Higher Certificate in 1914 and the Oxford and Cambridge School exams in 1915. In June 1916 he came top of the Sixth Form and won a History Exhibition to Christ Church Oxford. For this success Epsom College awarded him the Armstrong Scholarship but did not take up his Scholarship chosing an army career instead. He had been a keen member of the OTC for five years, culminating in passing his Certificate “A” exam in 1914 and became a Cadet Officer the following year. He had attended camps at Aldershot, Tidworth and in 1915 in Richmond Park. From 1915-1916 he was the School Subaltern.

He had aspired to join the Army as an officer early in 1916, but because many masters from Epsom college had left on war service and James was spending much of his time training 130 boys in the OTC, the headmaster and Captain Lee who was in charge of the College’s OTC were reluctant to release him as they thought he would be equally well employed with the OTC. See correspondence below.

He attested as a Private on 29 February 1916 and was posted to the Army Reserve on 1 March. He was discharged to join No 10 Officer Cadet battalion at Gailes as an Officer Cadet on 1 Aug 1916.
After training in Ayrshire with the Officer Cadet Battalion, he was gazetted to a commission in the Royal West Kent Regiment. London Gazette 8 Dec 1916 announced that James would be 2nd Lieutenant (on probation). He was sent to Flanders in January 1917 as part of the 123rd brigade, 41st division, 10 bn RWKR. Old friends at the College were enabled to keep in close touch with his doings by the interesting accounts he sent home of life in the trenches. He was admitted to No 7 Stationary hospital on 4 Mar 1917 with influenza and did not return to duty until 28 March. At the end of June he distinguished himself during the capture of Vimy Ridge. A few days later, on 25 June, while patrolling by night in front of British lines in Belgium, he was badly wounded. According to the article in the Epsomian this was by machine gun fire, but the telegram from No 17 Casualty Clearing Station at Remy Sidings stated that he had a shell wound to his thigh. He was too ill to be transferred to Calais and UK and died there at 14.45 on 2 July a few days after his 20th birthday. “His death, at the early where he died age of twenty, was a great sorrow to his many friends at Epsom, where the memory of his leadership and example lives on.” BH Epsomian.

He was buried at Lijssehentoeck Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium; Grave Reference: XIII. H. 8. He is also remembered on the Christ Church Oxford roll of honour. Probate for his effects, valued at £266 6s 6d.was granted to his father on 19 November. His belongings were returned from the front which included a wrist watch and protector (damaged), 1 pair of spectacles (damaged), 1 red ID disc, 1 flask, 1 clasp knife, 1 tie pin, 1 cigarette case, 2 collar badges, 2 cigarette holders (1 in a case), 1 cheque book, 1 false tooth, 1 pair of pince nez spectacles in case 1 pencil, 1 stud, photos, 1 note case, 3 letters (2 damaged), 9 buttons and 2 stars. A separate parcel was sent home containing a hair brush, shaving brush, razors, shaving soap in a tin, a tin, a revolver in a case, a towel, a handkerchief, a Sam Brown belt, a collar, a soap box, a tooth brush and a mirror.

His brother, Ian Osborne Crombie, a Captain in the Middlesex Regiment, was killed on the Somme 28 July, 1916. His eldest brother William Maurice Crombie was a Captain in the Indian Medical Service and died on 17 February 1919. He is buried in Sidcup. All three are commemorated in Bexley. Their father died on 30 March 1918 so only James’ mother and sister Mary Gladys survived the war years.

Sources
CWGC
Epsom college Register printed and m/s
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Free BMD
Probate
Times 7 July 1917
TNA WO 339/58262


Crombie's Matriculation Certificate (equivalent of A Levels).
Crombie as Head Prefect in 1916 (centre)

Letter from Headmaster, Revd. Barton, suggesting that Crombie could not be spared for service.
Headmaster's letter, page 2.

Dr. James Crombie's letter to the War Office, pages 1 and 3.

Dr. Crombie's letter, page 2.

Crombie, William Maurice

Birth Year: 1894  
Entered Epsom College: 1907  
Regiment: T/Capt. I.M.S. Died 1918  

Decoration:  
House: F  
Rank: Capt  
HMM? □
Crombie, William Maurice
Died 17 March 1918

William was born 6 September 1893 (GRO Ref: Sept 1893 Bromley 2a 453) the son of Dr James Crombie and his wife Mary Marshall Crombie nee Osborne, of Sidcup. He was the brother of James McHattie Crombie [Epsom College 1911-1916].

In 1901 the family was living at Highden, Foots Cray, Kent. James senior was a 44 year old general practitioner who had trained in Edinburgh. His wife was 38. Seven year old William had 3 siblings: Mary Gladys aged 9, Ian Osborne aged 6 and James aged 5. The family employed a cook.

In 1911 the family was living in an 11 roomed house at 20, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup. It is likely that this was Highden as a 1907 directory records a Highden in Hatherley Rd. James senior was still working as a general medical practitioner. Mary was 48 Grace 19, Ian 16 and James 13 were at home on the night of the census. The family employed a cook and a maid. The census confirmed that James and Mary had had four children, all living. William was at Epsom College.

William entered Epsom College’s Senior School, Forest House on 19 September 1907 having won an Open Scholarship. This was a combination of the Junior Scholarship and the Entrance Scholarship and was open to all. He took a whole-hearted approach to school life and engaged in a range of activities, always working hard and trying to give his best. In 1910 he was appointed a sub-prefect. He was a good, though not outstanding, all round sportsman. He played in the cricket second XI. The critique in the Epsomian magazine 1911 commented that he was “much improved. He had good hitting power as a batsman and was keen in the field.” He was a forward in the Forest hockey XI and was in the school rugby second XV 1909 and 1911. He was described as a much improved forward, worked hard and dribbled well. He made the First rugby XV in 1910 and played a good, defensive game but lacked strength. He was kept out of the game for some time through ill health but was elected captain for the 1911-12 season. He was also in the school OTC where he was promoted to Sergeant in October 1910.

He applied himself equally well to his studies. In 1908 he finished fifth out of 18 boys, and the following year came fourth out of 18. In 1909 he achieved a first class pass in the exam for Object Drawing. In 1910 he came bottom of 12 boys in his year but this may have been related to his health problems. He also had a new interest, photography, for which he won the holiday prize in 1910. He passed the Higher School Certificate that year and the London Matriculation exam. In 1911 he was in the Modern VIth form and won the Watts prize for scientific subjects. He took and passed the first exams for his medical degree whilst still at school and won a scholarship to St Thomas’s hospital to continue his studies. He graduated with MB and B.Sc in 1916 and took MRCP and LRCP diplomas that year. He was also in the London University OTC.

After a year as senior obstetric house physician he took a temporary commission as a Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps on 22 May 1916. He obtained a permanent commission as Lieutenant in the Indian Medical Service on 23 Jan 1917 which was back-dated to 22 May 1916. In 1917 he was promoted to temporary Captain.

He married Grace Almora Franks in 1917. (GRO Ref Mar 1917 Bromley 2a 893) He contracted an infection in Baghdad, Mesopotamia and was brought home to Albert Dock hospital for Tropical diseases. He died of influenza that became pneumonia shortly after returning to England on 17 Mar 1919.

He is buried in Foots Cray cemetery, Sidcup grave number E. 28.1 Probat was granted to his widow on 6 May 1919. His address was given as Highden, Hatherley Road, Sidcup ad his effects were valued at £425 14s 11d. She also received his British and Victory medals.

CWGC recorded his widow’s address was 17 Granville Rd, Sidcup.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsomian magazine 1919
Epsom College Yellow Book
Free BMD
Index of Old Epsomians biographies between 1890 and 1914.
Kings College London archives.
Medal Index
Probate

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Crookshank, Alexander Gerard Graham

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1911</th>
<th>Regiment: Australian Forces 1914-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Researcher:

Crookshank, Alexander Gerard Graham, s. of dr. F. G. Crookshank of Barnes, b. 1900, L.S., l. 1913, occupation unknown, brother of S. G. C. (1922), served in the Far East with Australian Forces; 89 Forbes Street, East Sydney, N.S.W.

Crosbie, Kenneth Christopher

|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|

Researcher:


Cross, Group Capt. Brian William

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1912</th>
<th>Regiment: Pilot R.A.F. 1918</th>
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Researcher:


Cross, Maj. Claude Harold

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Ernest Jackson Cummins (EJC) was born in Cork, Ireland on 18 April 1879 (GRO Vol 5 p153 Belfast). He was the son of Dr William Jackson Cummins (1828-1893) and his third wife Letitia Stevenson (1838-1909). Dr WJ Cummins, an Irishman from Cork by birth, was a graduate of Edinburgh University. He was married three times his first two wives apparently dying young, following childbirth. EJC had 3 brothers and a sister as well as 2 half-brothers and 5 half-sisters. A brother, Arthur Gordon (1881-1947) also went to Epsom College in 1895, qualified in medicine in Ireland and went on to become a Major in the RAMC being awarded the M.C. in WW1.

Dr William Jackson Cummins, EJC’s father, had another son William Edward Ashley Cummins (1858-1923) by his first wife, Mary Elizabeth Connell (1830-1861). William E. Ashley, who also became a doctor, sent his son Nicholas Marshall Cummins (1892-1963) to Epsom College in 1906. Nicholas became a physician in due course, serving as a T/Capt. RAMC in WW1 and like his half-uncle was awarded the M.C.

In 1892 EJC was entered for Epsom College by his mother then living at The Nest, Spy Hill, Queenstown, Ireland. His father was then probably terminally ill as he died the following year. EJC was awarded a Council Exhibition by the College and joined Lower III form and Carr House. In 1893 he moved up to the Middle IV form and won the form prize in the Christmas term. The following year finds him in the Upper IV where he won the mathematics prize for the Middle School and came 6th of 18 in his set. He then left the College at the end of the summer term in 1894 possibly as a result of the changed family circumstances.

After leaving the College when he was 15 it seems likely that he completed his schooling in Ireland and then went on to University there as did others in his family. In May 1900 he was nominated by the Universities and Colleges for the Army and joined the Royal Regiment of Artillery as a 2/Lt. (LG 27196 p3336) at the age of 21. In October 1906 he was seconded to the School of Gunnery at Woolwich to undertake a gunnery staff course (LG 27960 p7111). Two years later he became an Officer of a Company of Gentleman Cadets (class B) at Sandhurst and a year later was advanced to class A (LG 28283 p6530) completing the course in 1912. In January that year he was restored to the establishment of the Gunners as a Lieutenant (LG 28575 p642). In May 1913 he was promoted to Captain in the Royal Garrison Artillery and in October took up the post of Adjutant (LG 28722 p3754) serving in the Mauritius Battalion until December 1915.

He moved to the France and Flanders theatre of war with the 19th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery (R.G.A.) on 30th May.
1915 4 and was promoted to Major in December of that year (LG 29420 p13006. The siege Batteries of the RGA were equipped with the heavy guns, the 6 inch to 9.2 inch howitzers firing high explosive shells high over the heads of the infantry which plunged down on the enemy lines and equipment stores behind 3. In June 1916 he was awarded the DSO in the Birthday Honours list (LG 29608 p5567) ‘for distinguished service in the field’, and in June 1917 became an Actg. Lt./Col. in the Royal Garrison Artillery. In January 1919 as a reward for distinguished service in France and Flanders he was promoted to Brevet Lt. Col. (LG 31092 p14) following service as Counter-Battery Staff Officer with the Heavy Artillery Australian Corps. This appointment was on the recommendation of Brigadier-General Walter Cohen, G.O.C. the Artillery Division of the Australian Corps, to which EJC had clearly been seconded. The citation dated 27th September 1918 reads as follows 7.

Major (A/Lieut-Colonel) Ernest Jackson Cummins D.S.O. For continual good service and devotion to duty. This officer has carried out his duties of Counter-Battery Staff Officer in a most thorough and energetic manner. By the close study of his work he has been able, during the various attacks that have taken place since 4th July, to so thoroughly silence the Hostile Batteries that hostile retaliation has been weak and our casualties from that cause extremely light.

The attacks which the General referred to were those which began with the capture of Hamel on the 4th July carried out by the Australian Corps, under the overall command of Lieut-General Sir John Monash. It was the beginning of an offensive which was to drive the enfeebled German forces, recently savaged by the Australians at Villers-Bretonneux, away from Amiens and eventually back to the Hindenburg line, although many bitter conflicts were to take place before the final Armistice. One of the tasks of the heavy artillery was to neutralize the enemy guns and this EJC and his colleagues appear to have done with great success. He relinquished his appointment as A/Lt-Col. on ceasing to be Counter-Battery Staff Officer with effect from 1st May 1919 (LG 31412 p7891) thus reverting to the rank of Major and Brevet Lt/Col. He ended the war with the 11th Battery R.G.A. and following the Armistice was awarded the 1914-15 Star with emblem together with the British War and Victory medals.4

In 1923 he travelled to Gibralter 1 and appears to have served there with the Garrison until September 1925 (LG 33080 p5768) when he was appointed as an instructor at the Artillery College at Woolwich. In January 1928 he spent a brief spell at the Military College of Science and Technology, again as an instructor, before being restored to the establishment in February. In October that year he was promoted to the substantive rank of Lt-Col. with effect from May 1927 (LG 33430 p6634).

In April 1928 he married Nancy Margaret Tyler the daughter of retired Brigadier-General Arthur Tyler R.A. at Alvington in Gloucestershire. At that time EJC was stationed at Plymouth and after their marriage the couple lived for a time in Midbury S. Devon. There was a strong military tradition in the Tyler family. Arthur Tyler had been born at Hampton Court in 1867 the son of Sir Henry Whatley Tyler MP who had married Lady Margaret Pasley, the daughter of a Lieutenant-General. When Sir Henry died in London in 1908 he left his considerable fortune, £16 million at today’s value 1, to his four sons, all senior army officers. EJC and Nancy were to have three children one of whom qualified in medicine, another the youngest son, becoming a parson.

In October 1932 on completion of 4 years’ service as a Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel he was placed on the home posting list and then in the following year became a Colonel w.e.f. October 1932 (LG 33910 p916). In April 1934 he was appointed Colonel R.A. in the Scottish Command where he served until April 1936 when on reaching retirement age he retired to the reserve. Finally in April 1939 having reached the age limit for recall Colonel EJ Cummins D.S.O. ‘ceases to belong to the Retired Officers list’ (LG 34617 p2590). He does not appear to have served in WW2.

In retirement he and his wife moved back to the Welsh Borders near where she had lived before they were married and in 1951 EJC died at his home Skyborry at Llanfairwaterdine in Shropshire aged 72 (GRO 9a 105). His wife Nancy continued to live there until her death in February 1978.

Sources:
1Ancestry (GRO)
London Gazette (LG)
3The Long, Long Trail.
4Medal Roll Index
5Who’s Who 1935.
6Epsom College Register 1855-1905


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cummins, Maj. Arthur Gordon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>House:</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<tr>
<td>Maj. R.A.M.C.</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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Decorations: M.C.

Cummins, Major Arthur Gordon (1881-1947).
Epsom College: 1895-1899
MAJOR ARTHUR GORDON CUMMINS (1881-1947). M.C., R.A.M.C., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Queen’s Coll., Cork) [Epsom College 1895-1898] was the son of Dr W. J. Cummins of Cork, Eire, and the brother of Colonel Ernest Jackson Cummins, D.S.O. [Epsom College 1892-1894]. He received his medical education at Queen’s College, Cork. He then joined the R.A.M.C. and served as a Major at the Curragh Camp, County Kildare (1907). During the First World War he was awarded the Military Cross. He later emigrated to the U.S.A and died in Florida in 1947.

Cummins, Nicholas Marshall


Nicholas Marshall Cummins (1892-1963). M.C., M.D., B.Ch. (Cork), M.Sc. (Cork), F.R.C.P. (Ireland) [Epsom College 1906-1909] was the son of Dr W. A. Cummins of Cork, Ireland. He received his medical education at University College, Cork, graduating M.B., B.Ch in 1915. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C., and was awarded the Military Cross (M.C.) (1917). He was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Blood Transfusion Service, Cork.

Cunningham, Lt.-Col. John

Cunningham, Lt.-Col. John, C.I.E., formerly I.M.S., s. of Prof. D. J. Cunningham, F.R.S., of Dublin, b. 1881, entered from Loretto, W., prefect, XV (capt.), h. XI, l. 1899, Trin. Coll., Dublin, B.A., M.D., B.Ch., F.R.S. (Edin.); 12 Dick Place, Edinburgh 9

“He was a great disciplinarian, and we, his colleagues, used to interpret his M.D. to mean “master of details.” British Medical Journal (1968).

John Cunningham (1881-1968) [Epsom College 1895-1899] was the eldest son of Professor D. J. Cunningham, F.R.S., who held the Chair of Anatomy at the University of Edinburgh. He entered Epsom College from Loretto and, in his final year became a prefect and Captain of the Rugby XV. He completed his medical training at Trinity College, Dublin, qualifying M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. in 1903. In
1905, he obtained a commission in the Indian Medical Service and proceeded M.D. the following year. After preliminary training at Poona and after completing two years of military service he was transferred to the research department of the Government of India. It was there that he first saw the opportunities for preventive medicine, especially in bacteriology, and after working for several years in provincial laboratories, he was appointed Assistant Director of the Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory in 1910. From then onwards he pursued a distinguished career in the pursuit and direction of preventive medicine. In 1912, he became Assistant Director of the Central Research Institute of India, where apart from a period of military service on the Indian North-West Frontier (1915-1916), for which he was mentioned in despatches, he remained until 1918. In 1919 Cunningham was appointed Director of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine in Madras, and this became an active centre of research under his direction. The mass production of glycerinated calf vaccine lymph against smallpox, was started by him. With his great interest in public health problems, particularly in water and sewage purification, he constructed experimental filter stations, the first of their kind in India. In 1926 he was appointed Director of the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli – the first, and one of the most important of the institutes to be established in India in connection with the suppression of rabies, and he was greatly involved in the preparation of rabies vaccine. During his time at the Pasteur Institute his research into bacillary dysentery was of a pioneering nature. John Cunningham also found time to act as general organizing secretary of the 7th Congress of the Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine. In 1928 he was appointed C.I.E., in recognition of his services to preventive medicine, and the following year he returned to Edinburgh on his appointment as the first medical superintendent of the new Astley Ainslie Hospital. It was during this period that he set up at the hospital the first school of occupational therapy in Scotland. He wrote widely on rehabilitation and occupational therapy and was a strong negotiator in securing recognition for this new profession with the Department of Health for Scotland. From 1946-1965 he was Vice-President of the Scottish Association of Occupational Therapists, and in 1966, he was elected President as a mark of the association’s gratitude to him as the principal pioneer of occupational therapy in Scotland. In 1954, he was elected honorary fellow of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists and, shortly before this, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Cutfield, Alfred Ralph

| Decorations: |
| Rank |
| Researcher: |

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Cutfield, Hugh Edward

| Decorations: |
| Birth Year: 1911 | Entered Epsom College: 1911 | Regiment: Served in the ranks in World War 1 (1918) | House: HMM? |
| Rank |
| Researcher: |

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Cutfield, Hugh Edward, s. of A. C. (1868), b. 1901, L.S. and W., 181918, served in the ranks World War I, Sarawak Civil Service, killed 1942

Cutting, High William Paterson

| Decorations: |
| Rank |
| Researcher: |

Alan Cutting

My Grandfather, H W P Cutting, was therefore the only one of seven siblings to have children, and he also had seven. All were brought up in Suffolk, ending my family’s fifty-four year direct connection with Norfolk (1860-1914) that had started two generations earlier with Rev W A Cutting moving there from Suffolk.
Hugh William Paterson Cutting was born in Smallborough (Stalham) in 1895, and was educated at Epsom College. According to his daughters’ (my Auntes Margaret and Anne) recollection, upon leaving Epsom College “HWP” worked with relatives on a farm in the Prairies of Canada from 1912 until the outbreak of World War One. They believe that he went to Canada party for health reasons, to combat the vulnerability to tuberculosis from which his family suffered. They also recall him telling them of how he narrowly avoided travelling on the fated RMS Titanic. In fact, H Cutting (ticket 13908) sailed from Liverpool on RMS Lusitania on 27 July 1912, bound for New York (UK outward passenger lists, 1890-1960). He did indeed therefore narrowly avoid travelling on RMS Titanic, which, on its maiden voyage, had hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean and sank just two months earlier, on 15 April 1912, with the loss of about 1,500 lives.

HWP was just 19 when British Prime Minister Asquith declared war on the German Empire on 4 August 1914. On 14 November 1914 Hugh W Cutting (19, a farmer) arrived from Montreal to Liverpool on RMS Hesperian, which was at the time chartered to the Canadian Pacific Line, and which was sunk ten months later by the very same German U-boat (U-20) that sunk the RMS Lusitania.25 It appears therefore that immediately upon his arrival back from Canada in November 1914 HWP joined the King’s Liverpool Regiment as a Lieutenant. Note: HWP joined the 4th battalion of the King’s (Liverpool) Regiment. Many battalions of the “King’s” were formed as part of Secretary of State for War Lord Kitchener’s appeal for an initial 100,000 male volunteers in 1914. They were referred to as the New Army or Kitchener’s Army. The 17th to 20th King’s, New Army “Service” battalions were referred to as the Liverpool “Pals” because they were predominantly composed of work colleagues. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_battalions_of_the_King%27s_Regiment_(Liverpool) We know his “theatre of war” was France. He was the victim of a chlorine gas attack, which caused him to have a dreadful cough for the remainder of his life, and which is one of my abiding memories of him. I think this gassing incident was probably in Loos in September 1915, when some 150 tons of chlorine gas was used on the first day of the battle, discharged via thousands of cylinders. But strong winds blew the gas backwards; a dreadful own-goal for the British troops, and hardly a good start in life for a young man just turned twenty, and who had moved to Canada to escape a family weakness for tuberculosis. 18

HWP was probably transferred as a Lieutenant to (or recuperated at) Pembroke Dock in South Wales. Here he married Norfolk girl Jess Wittrick (or at least registered the marriage) in Haverfordwest in October 1916. They were still living in or near Haverfordwest when their son Geoffrey was born on 24 April 1918. Haverfordwest is ten miles from Pembroke Dock and, as the county town of Pembrokeshire, could well have been the place where his marriage and son’s birth were registered, whilst HWP was stationed at Pembroke Dock.

Dacre, Richard Irving

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regt:</th>
<th>House:</th>
<th>Decorations:</th>
<th>Researcher:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


OE Doctors

LIEUTENANT- COLONEL RICHARD IRVING DACRE (1889-1947). T.D., R.A.M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1903-1907] was the son of Dr John Dacre, of Clifton, Bristol, and father of Dr Arthur John Irving Dacre [Epsom College 1940-1943]. He received his medical education at Bristol Medical School, and served as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the R.A.M.C. (T.A.) as a Medical Officer attached to the 6th Gloucestershire Regiment. He held the 1914-918 Star, General Service and Allied Victory Medals, and the Territorial Decoration and Territorial Efficiency Medal. He was mentioned despatches (1918). His son wrote: “My father was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps when he retired and he had a special career note as having served as a Medical Officer in every unit of the British Army during his time of service.” After leaving the R.A.M.C. he went into general practice at Bristol.

Dakin, Humphry Burns

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<th>Regt:</th>
<th>House:</th>
<th>Decorations:</th>
<th>Researcher:</th>
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</table>

Dakin, Humphry Burns (fam. of Dr John Dakin, of Clifton, Bristol) was a officer in the King’s Liverpool Regiment and the Territorial Force. He was mentioned in despatches (1918). He retired from the Territorial Force in 1918 and entered general practice in Bristol.

Dane, Eric
Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Lt. Inns of Court and M.G.C. 1914-18
Rank

Dane, Eric, s. of dr. Harold Dane of Northwood, Middx, b. 1892, W., l. 1909, insurance broker and company director, T/Lt. Inns of Court and M.G.C. 1914-18; Domik, Belgrave Heights, Victoria

Darwen, John
Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Capt. Devon Regt. att. M.G.C. 1914-18
Rank

Darwen, John, s. of J. S. Darwen, occupation unknown, of Harrow, b. 1886, W., h. XI, l. 1903, automobile engineer, T/Lt. Canadian Forces 1914-18, father of J. D. (1924) and T. D. (1933), d. 1935

Date, Alfred Horton
Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: T/Capt. Devon Regt. 1914-18
Rank

Date, Alfred Horton, brother of W. A. D. (1907), b. 1896, F., XI, 1-1913, B’ham U., industrial consultant, T/Capt. Devon Regt. 1914-18; West Cairn, Hest Bank, near Lancaster

Date, William Adlington
Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Capt. Devon Regt. att. M.G.C. 1914-18
Rank


Davey, Frank Coleman
Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Rank

Davey, Frank Coleman

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Davey, Frank Coleman, s. of Dr. Samuel Davey of Caterham Valley, b. 1897, L.S. and C., l. 1914, marine underwriter, L.Cpl. R.A.S.C. 1915-18, brother of T. B. D. (1912) and J. M. D. (1914); Grasslands, Woodcote Park Avenue, Purley

Davey, Thomas Barnaford

- **Birth Year**: 1912
- **Entered Epsom College**: 1912
- **Regiment**: T/2nd Lt. R.G.A. 1917-18
- **Rank**: HMM?


David, Harold William Hodgson

- **Birth Year**: 1907
- **Entered Epsom College**: 1907
- **Regiment**: Lieut (S.R.) Lancs Fus. 1914-18
- **Rank**: HMM?

Davies, Arthur Lloyd

- **Birth Year**: 1904
- **Entered Epsom College**: 1904
- **Regiment**: T/2nd Lt. Royal Welch Fus. 1916-17
- **Rank**: HMM?

Davies, Edward Stanley

- **Birth Year**: 1899
- **Entered Epsom College**: 1899
- **Regiment**: T/Capt. N. Staffs Regt. 1915-18
- **Rank**: HMM?

Arthur Lloyd Davies (born 1892). M.B., Ch.B (Liverpool) [Epsom College 1904-19118 prefect] was the son of Dr J. C. Davies, of Wrexham, and brother of the Rev. John Allan Davies [Epsom College 1904-1909]. He received his medical education at Liverpool University, and then went into general practice at Rhos, Wrexham, North Wales, where he was also Honorary Surgeon for Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Welch Fusiliers (1916-1917).

Davies, John Allan

- **Birth Year**: 1894
- **Entered Epsom College**: 1894
- **Regiment**: T/2nd Lt. N. Staffs Regt. 1915-18
- **Rank**: HMM?
Davies, Edward Stanley, s. of dr. Gomer Davies of Bayswater, b. 1885, P., l. 1901, occupation unknown, T/Capt. N. Staffs Regt. 1915-18

Davies, George Vincent
Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1917-18
House: HMM?
Rank


Davies, John Bowen
Birth Year: 1877
Entered Epsom College: 1890
Regiment: Capt. Pembroke Hussars 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank

Davies, Thomas Reginald
Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Capt. (S.R.) R.A.M.C. 1915-18
House: HMM?
Rank
Davies, Thomas Reginald, s. of J. L. Davies of Llanelly, b. 1894, F., l. 1911, St. Mary's Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., Capt. (S.R.) R.A.M.C. 1915-18, brother of G.V.D. (1909) and A. S. D. (1915); Avenue Villa, Llanelly


Davis, Athol Dalston, D.S.C., s. of G. W. Davis of Sidcup, b. 1890, L.S. and C., l. 1906, Pay/Lt. R.N.R. 1914-18, sugar manufacturer, sometime resident in Cawnpor

Davidson, Kaye Farquhar Rashell
Davison, Rasheed Montague Rashell

Died 27/01/19 aged 32
Buried Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey

OE Doctors

KAYE FARQUHAR RASHELLE DAVISON (1884-1946). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1898-1904] was the son of Dr Rashell Davison, of Battle, Sussex, and brother of Anthony Campbell Rashell Davison [Epsom College 1894-1898]. He received his medical education at the Westminster Hospital, and then went into general practice at New Malden, Surrey. During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C. (1916-1918) at Salonika.

Monty, as he was known, was born on 31 May 1886 in Battle, East Sussex the sixth and youngest child of Dr Rashell Thomas Davison and Frances nee Smith, his wife. His parents had married in London in 1879 (GRO Ref June 1879 St Geo Hanover Sq 1a 679. His mother’s full name was Emily Frances Smith)

In 1891 the family was living in Battle High Street. Monty’s father was a 39 year old medical practitioner, and his mother was 42. Four year old Monty had five siblings: Cecelia aged 11, Anthony 9, John and Kathleen both 8, and Kaye aged 6. A young medical student, John Bailey was staying with them, and the family employed a governess, a cook and three maids.

By the 1901 census the family had moved to Vernham, 2 Kingston Road, New Malden. The children were recorded unusually by their initials only. Cecelia, Anthony (a chartered accountant’s clerk) John and Kathleen were living with their parents. Mary Morton, a 68 year old woman, was boarding with the family, and they employed a cook and a housemaid. Monty and his brother Kaye were both at Epsom College at this time. His brother Anthony had also been educated at the College between 1894 and 1898.

Monty had entered Epsom College Upper School, Forest House on 27 April 1901, joining the Upper IV form of which he came top in 1901/2. He passed his School Certificate with two first class passes probably in Maths and Latin in 1902, and the Higher Certificate in 1903. In 1905 although he came fourth out of the 4 boys in the Sixth Form, he took the form prize, and had 2 pieces of work shown to the Headmaster. He was awarded an English Literature prize. He left at Easter 1905 and became the Far Eastern agent of Spicer and Co, living in India. In 1910 he had travelled from Isfahan in Iran to the Gulf port Mohammorah, a journey of three weeks by mule caravan. He wrote to Epsom College to say that the strangeness of his surroundings did not detract from the pleasure with which he read all the College news in the school magazine, the Epsomian. In January 1911 he was in Karachi, Pakistan.

In the 1911 census his family was at the same address in New Malden. They confirmed that they had had 6 children all of whom were still living. Only Kathleen and her brother Kaye were living with their parents along with 1 servant.

After the outbreak of war, Monty embarked on the ship Gloucestershire at Colombo in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and arrived back in Tilbury on 4 May 1915. He joined the Inns of Court OTC as Private 4493 on 28 June 1915. He was 5ft 7inches tall, with a 33 inch chest with a 3 inch expansion, a good physical development and 6/6 vision.

He was on home service as a private from 28 June 1915 until 6 October 1915 when he was discharged to a commission.

After being sent to France on 5 July 1916 he took part in many of the severe engagements up to the British retirement in March 1918. He was seriously wounded during the fighting at Epehy in 22 Mar 1918 and taken prisoner.

A series of telegrams, the first in March, informed his parents that he was wounded and missing. On 18 Apr they received a letter informing them that Monty had been taken prisoner of war but that the War Office did not know in which camp he was being held. Monty managed to get a message through to his parents that he had been shot through his forehead which had paralysed his right arm and caused him to lose his voice, but his voice was improving. He also had six wounds to his legs. His...
father wrote to War Office to let them know. In August he was informed that Monty had been transferred from Karlsruhe to Landshut and that he also had a wound at the back of his cheek.

Monty was repatriated after the armistice to the Prince of Wales (POW) hospital for Officers at Marylebone as he was still partially paralysed from the waist down. He was operated on but complications arose and he died of pneumonia and post operative cerebral meningitis. The OC POW hospital telegraphed the O in C 3 North Staffordshire Regiment No. 6 Lichfield to inform them that Monty had died at 5.30 pm on 27 Jan 1919. His father wrote to the War Office stating that it was his solace and pride that his boy had died true to his lineage.

He is buried in Kingston cemetery grave A849. At the time his address was 18 Malden Rd, New Malden. The undertakers, Fairbrother, carried out the funeral on Fri 31 January. He had made a limited will and on 16 September administration was granted to his mother Frances Davison. His effects were valued at £1013 16s.11d. A further grant of probate was made to his brother Kaye Farquhar Rashell Davison on 8 August 1928 for £226 15s 3d. His British and Victory medals were sent to his brother Kaye. His medal card records his death as 22 Jan 1919.

Sources
CWGC
Epsom register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian 1919
Free BMD
Kingston cemetery records
Medal Index cards
Probate
Times
TNA file 339/45229 Long no. 114189/7
TNA FO 655/616 passport application

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


In Memoriam
CAPT. R. M. R. DAVISON-;
3rd North Staffordshire Regt. attached the Leicestershire Regt.

Entered Forest House in 1901, and left 1905. He was in India at the outbreak of the war and returned home to enlist, where he joined the Inns of Court O.T.C. On being sent to France he took part in many of the severe engagements up to the retirement in March, 1918, when, during the fighting at Epehy, he was seriously wounded and taken prisoner. After the armistice he was repatriated and was at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Marylebone, where an operation was performed, but complications set in, which caused his death on January 29th, 1919

VALE A SOLDIER'S FAREWELL.

[This poem was written at Epehy in December, 1917. by Capt. Davison, whose death we announce in this number.]

So I lay dying – while the hours of Life
Slowly welled forth, staining the shattered ground;
The poor shell-shattered ground, victim of strife
Which rocked and crashed and shrieked and echoed around.
Dim velvet shadows veiled my aching head
and in a few short hours I should be dead.

Dead! Yet to me Life gave with both her hands.
Joyous I strayed down paths with pleasure strewn:
Laughed lightly, lightly loved in many lands,
And reaped in fields which fairy hands had sown;
Drinking deep draughts of joy that had no end.
And once, at any rate, I found a Friend!

A Friend! Ah! Yes, I too have plumbed the deep
Of Friendship’s passioned moments, calmer hours.
I have snatched happiness from gentle sleep,
Culled the sweet blooms of Night’s exotic flow’rs;
Won too great joy – a joy which stifled breath -
And lost it in a moment to chill death!

E’en as I lie, I see the Bridge of Fate,
Linking me in the Future to the Past,
And, as I strain my dimming eyes, the Gate
Of Life-though-Death flings open wide at last.
There limned in colours that may never fade
Are all the treasures of my mind portrayed.

The poor grey battered bastions which remain
Of all the glory Ypres gave to mankind,
The sacrifice of Him-without-a-stain
Which faithful souls at countless cross-roads find
A narrow road-strip leading to the sea -
All these are living memories to me.

Orion leaning down to greet the moon,
As daily round the outpost line I go,
His golden belt fast fading while, forlorn -
He vainly strives to meet the new Sun’s glow -
The pale French grey of dawn and mist and sky
As Flanders’ battle days go grimly by.

Street scenes in Arras – “Eppy’s” coat of snow,
A red cross ambulance at eventide
Speaking to weary wounded of the slow
And comfortable homeward motor-ride,
Glories of old gold on the puddle way,
Sun flashes of a washed-out winter’s day.

Dear memories that live, though I must die!
Mind paintings that are still a part of me!
Let no one grieve – for it is willed that I
Must pass from Life to Death to Victory.
Grieve not – for life has been too sweet for Grief.
I go quite happy in this sure Belief.

R.M.R.D.

Davison’s father’s tribute
Day, George

**Birth Year:** 1894

**Entered Epsom College:** 1908

**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1917-21

**House:** HMM?

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


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**OE Doctors**

De Chaumont, The Rev. Thomas Sandford Blakiston Francois

**Birth Year:** 1885

**Entered Epsom College:** 1896

**Regiment:** T/C.F. 1914-18

**House:** HMM?

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


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de la Bere, Lt.-Col. Harry Clifford

**Birth Year:**

**Entered Epsom College:** 1905

**Regiment:** Lt.-Col. R.A.S.C.

**House:** HMM?

**Rank:**

**Decorations:** O.B.E.

**Researcher:**
Deacon, John Nissen

Born: 1892-1959.
Epsom College: 1905-1911
JOHN NISSEN DEACON (1892-1959). M.C., M.B., B.S. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1905-1910. Epsom College Council Exhibition. Prefect. Watts Science Prize] was the son of Dr J. G. Deacon of West Croydon, Surrey, and brother of William Oliver Deacon [Epsom College 1905-1910]. At Epsom College he was awarded a Council Exhibition and was then awarded an Entrance Scholarship to the London Hospital. In 1915, he joined the R.A.M.C. for service in France and Italy, and from 1919-1920 was Staff Surgeon to the General Headquarters in Egypt. In 1917, he was awarded the Military Cross (M.C.) for “exceptional bravery and resource on several occasions in attending to the wounded under very heavy shell fire, with complete disregard for his own personal safety.” After the War, John Deacon spent two years as Aural Surgeon at the Benchimol Hospital, Tangier, but in 1927 was appointed Medical Superintendent and Consultant Ear Nose and Throat Surgeon at Redhill Hospital Edgware (now Edgware General Hospital). “His ideas and methods attracted visitors from all parts of the world. He was a careful and dexterous surgeon. His inventive brain devised many items of hospital equipment.”

Dempster, Ronald James

Born: 1895.
Epsom College: 1909-1911

Ronald was born on 3 November 1895 (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Reigate 2a 169), the son of Dr John Henry Dempster and his wife Grace Shaw Watson Dempster. Grace had been born in Scotland. I have not found their marriage.

In 1901 the family was living at 81 Station Road, Reigate in Surrey. John was a 34 year old medical practitioner. Grace was 34. Ronald was 5 years old and he had a sister Jean Alison Marie aged 3. The family employed a cook and a nurse.

Ronald’s father died on 18 March 1909 in Brosely, Shropshire of double pneumonia. He had been the medical officer at the Philanthropic Society’s Farm School in Redhill, but in 1908 had moved to a practice in Brosely.

Ronald entered Epsom College’s Lower School, Holman House on 14 September 1909. His mother’s address when she registered him was 78 Bouvarie Rd West, Folkestone where she was working as a housekeeper. He continued into Carr House in the Senior School, and was there in the 1911 census. On leaving school in July 1914 he became a clerk.

Ronald enlisted on 1 Sept 1914 and his service papers have survived. He was living in St Matthew’s parish, Redhill, Surrey. He was a well built lad, 5ft 11½ inches tall weighing 140lbs, with a good physical development. He had a 37½ inch chest with a 2 inch expansion. He had 6/9 eyesight in both eyes, and three old vaccination marks. He had a fresh complexion, with grey eyes.
and fair hair. He gave his mother's address as Charmans, Leigh, Reigate, Surrey. He signed up for just the duration of the war. His ability soon became apparent. He was posted to join his regiment on 4 September 1914, was promoted to temporary corporal on 1 October, and then promoted to temporary sergeant on 28 January 1915. He was confirmed in this rank on 11 May.

Initially he was reported missing, but a further enquiry confirmed that he had been killed although his body was never recovered. He is remembered on Ypres Menin Gate panels 46-48 or 50. His belongings were sent to his mother care of Dr Watson, Park house, Creech End, Willesden NW.

CWGC recorded his mother's address as The Harvesters, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey

Sources
Census 1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom register m/s
Free BMD
Service papers

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

**DEMPSTER Ronald James Sgt B/2855**

8th Rifle Brigade Prince Consort's Own  
KIA 30 July 1915

Ronald was born on 3 November 1895 (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Reigate 2a 169), the son of Dr John Henry Dempster and his wife Grace Shaw Watson Dempster. Grace had been born in Scotland. I have not found their marriage. In 1901 the family was living at 81 Station Road, Reigate in Surrey. John was a 34 year old medical practitioner. Grace was 34. Ronald was 5 years old and he had a sister Jean Alison Marie aged 3. The family employed a cook and a nurse.

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CWGC recorded his mother's address as The Harvesters, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey

Sources
Census 1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom register m/s
Free BMD
Service papers

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**Denning, Charles Ffolliott**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1911</th>
<th>Rank: Lt. (S.R.) The Queen's Regt.</th>
<th>Decorations: M.C.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Researcher:

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

-Denning, Charles Ffolliott, M.C., s. of dr. C. E. Denning of Epping, b. 1897, P., l. 1913, occupation unknown, Lieut. (S.R.) The Queen's Regt.-

**Denton, Maj. Francis William Hugh**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1896</th>
<th>Rank: Maj. Queen's (R.W.S.) Regt.</th>
<th>Decorations:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Researcher:

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Denton, Maj. Francis William Hugh, formerly Queen's (R.W.S.) Regt, s. of dr. E. R. Denton of Leicester, b. 1882, C., l. 1898, served as a Recruiting Officer in World War II.

Dickson, Brian Thorburn
Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Maj. S. Lancs Regt. desp, Croix de Guerre (avec Palme)
House: HMM?
Rank: 
Decorations: 

Dickson, Ian Dunbar
Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank: M.C.
Decorations: M.C.

Dickson, Herbert Grantham
Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank: 
Decorations: 

OE Doctors


He reg ed his medical education at Edinburgh University. After house appointments at Edinburgh University, Ian Dickson joined an expedition engaged in mapping the boundaries of Northern Rhodesia. He stayed on as Medical Officer in Barotse Land until the beginning of the First World War. He then served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918), in France and at Salonika, and was awarded the Military Cross. While attending a wounded soldier he was shot. At the time he was breaking the handle of a pick to splint a fractured femur and the shot removed half his lower jaw and divided a carotid artery. He held onto this until he lost consciousness, but such was the enemy gunfire that it was not possible to move him for many hours, and until nightfall. He was invalided home and was attached to Thorpe War Hospital, Norwich, as Inspector of Red Cross Hospitals in Norfolk. Subsequently his lower jaw was replaced by a successful rib graft. He the nt into general practice at Norwich, and was appointed Assistant Radiologist at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, a post that he held for 28 years. He was President of the Norfolk Branch of the British Medical Association from 1938-1942, and President of the Norwich Medico-Chirurgical Society. He played an active part in civic work at Norwich and became a member of the City Council and Chairman of the Health Committee. In 1955, he s elected Lord Mayor of Norwich. While at Epsom College Ian Dickson set a public schools quarter mile record which stood for 40 years. He represented Scotland three times in the 100 and 440 yards.
Donaldson, Dennis Harrison

Birth Year: 1896
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. London Regt.

Entered Epsom College: 1906
House: P

Died: 25/09/15 aged 19
Unit: 7th Bn., London Regt

Buried: Loos Brit. Cem, France

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

DONALDSON Denis Harrison 2nd Lt
7th Bn., London Regiment
25 September 1915

Dennis was born 22 Aug 1896 in Harlington, Hounslow, Middlesex (GRO Ref: Sept 1896 Staines 3a 22), the son of Dr Tom Campbell Donaldson and his wife Emma Kathleen nee Harrison. His father had been born in Donegal in Ireland and his mother in India.

In the 1901 census four year old Denis was living at The Elms in Harlington with his 36 year old father who was the local doctor and his mother who was 28. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a groom-come-gardener.

In the 1911 census Denis’s parents and his four year old brother Keith were still living in Harlington. Denis was recorded as a boarder at Epsom College.

He had entered “A” House in the Lower School on 4 May 1906 and then progressed to Propert House in the Upper School. His father’s contact address was given as care of the London County West and Paris Bank, Hounslow. Whilst at Epsom, Dennis served in the College OTC.

After leaving school in April 1913, Dennis studied engineering at the City and Guilds Engineering College (now known as Imperial College, South Kensington) and continued his interest in the army by joining the University of London OTC.

When war broke out he applied for a commission through the OTC but after waiting for a month he became impatient and enlisted as Private 2150 on 3 Sept 1914 in the 7th (City of London) Bn, London Regiment. He joined his battalion on 12 Nov 14. (check he was recorded as 19 1/2 years old when attested, but he was 18.) Denis was 5ft 10 inches tall (deleted in his record and replaced with 5ft 9in)

His ability and his experience in the OTC at once became apparent. He was appointed to lance corporal on 16 May 15.

He had a very good character and a happy and cheerful disposition. He had just received notification on 23 Sept 15 that he would be discharged to a commission in 1/7 London Regt Territorial Force when he was killed on Saturday 25 Sept 1915 by machine gun fire in front of an enemy trench in the battle of Loos. He was leading his platoon as a sergeant at the time because his Regiment had not received official confirmation of his promotion. He had had his nineteenth birthday just a month earlier.

Captain Foster, the Adjutant, wrote “He died leading men against the German trenches and I saw him laid in his last resting place, close to the German trenches he had helped to capture.”

Gen HQ 3rd Echelon BEF sent his few belongings to his mother at The Elms, Harlington, Middlesex via Cox and Co, the military shippers, on 27 Nov 15: 1 leather case, 1 pocket mirror, 3 regimental buttons, 1 photo, 1 copper ring broken, 1 silver cigarette case, 1 identity bracelet and 1 handkerchief.

I have not found a will nor probate record for him. The balance of army pay due to him was £8 3s 8d with 2 days pay at the rank 2nd Lieut
He is buried at foot of the Double Crassie in the Loos British cemetery, grave VIII B 18
He was awarded 1915 star, the British and Victory medals.

Sources
CWGC
Census 1901, 1911
Epsom register m/s
Free BMD
Medal Index cards
TNA file WO 374/20230

Donaldson, Dennis Harrison, s. of dr. T. C. Donaldson of Hounslow, b. 1896, L.S. and P., l. 1913, engineering student, T/2nd Lt. London Regt., killed in action 1915

Donaldson's medals recently auctioned

A card to thank sympathisers
The Blau

Hemel Hempstead

By Sept. 19.

Sirs,

I have received no communication from the War Office with reference to the gratuity granted last December. I am writing as the legal representative of my late son Lieut.-Col. D. Neil Donaldson, of the 4th (City of London) Bolt, London Regiment.

I am informed that he has been killed in action on the 20th Sept. 1915. I should therefore be glad to know in what I am entitled as his next of kin, and will receive any further particulars without delay.

Yours faithfully,

T. C. Donaldson
Donaldson's medals up for auction.

Douglas, Bayard

Birth Year: 1904
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Capt. Glos Regt. 1914-18

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Douglas, Bayard, brother of T. D. (1903), b. 1885, W., l. 1905, occupation unknown, Capt. Glos Regt. (T.F.) 1914-18

Dowding, The Rev. Alexander Theodore Woodman

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/C.F. 1916-17

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Draper, Thomas Makin

Birth Year: 1886  
Entered Epsom College: 1908  
Regiment:  
House: F  
Rank: Capt  
HMM?  
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Thomas was born on 21 Sept 1896 (GRO Ref: Dec 1896 Downham, Norfolk 4b 353) the son of Dr Thomas Makin Draper and his wife, Selina Kate Gordon nee Cartwright. They had married in 1893 (GRO Ref: Mar 1893 Blaby, Leicestershire 7a 73).

In the 1901 census four year old Thomas, his mother who was 25 and his two siblings, Lena aged 7, and Lucy 2 were recorded visiting his maternal grandfather, Dr Henry Cartwright at Watlington House, in Downham Road, Watlington. However, it is likely that they were actually living with him. The village of Watlington was in the Downham Union, on the east side of the Great Ouse river and about 6 miles south of Lynn. Thomas’s father was visiting the Royal Exeter Hotel in Bournemouth Thomas’s father enrolled him to enter Epsom College’s Lower School, Holman House on 1 May 1908. He struggled academically, coming 7th out of 9 boys in the Second form in 1909, and bottom of the 23 boys in the Lower Third form the following year. He was absent for the summer term so his position would have been based on his work in the Michaelmas and Spring terms only. He left in April 1911.

In the 1911 census he was recorded as a boarder at a small grammar school in Donington, Spalding of which James Nicholls Worman was the headmaster. His parents were living in a 10 roomed house, probably Watlington house, in Watlington, Downham Market. His 12 year old sister Lucy Dorothy was also living with them and they employed a cook and a housemaid. Epsom college’s printed Register 1855-1954 states that Thomas obtained a commission as Temporary Lieutenant in the Bedfordshire Regiment and was killed in action in 1917. I have not found any evidence to support this. His name does not appear in the CWGC list of fallen. The information below seems to relate to him. 
He entered the RAF, served with 86 Sqn from 28 Jan 1918, and 85 Sqn from 16 April 1918 He returned to 86 Sqn on his appointment to 2nd Lieutenant Flying 15 May 1918.
He married Lilian Mary Webster at St Thomas’s Church West Hyde, Hertfordshire on 11 June 1918. At the time he was a lieutenant in the RAF and gave his address as Rickmansworth. The London Gazette 31 July 1919 published that he was to be a temporary lieutenant in the RASC from the RAF wef 13 June 1919.

On 30 September 1919 he relinquished his commission on ceasing to be employed on 12 June 1919. Thomas had been working as an engineer in the Gold Cast and embarked on SS Ekari at Secondee to return to the UK. He arrived in Liverpool April 1921

His Medal Card records his address as Lysters, Rickmansworth and lists him as Lieut in RASC. No medals are shown. Annotated with 21 May 1920
A discussion on the internet hosted Great War Forum indicates that he joined the Auxiliary Division of Royal Irish Constabulary in Oct 1921, and supports the view that he did not die nor was he a casualty of the war.

From 1920-26 a TM Draper was renting a property at 7 Ashbourne Avenue Hendon, In 1931 he was renting 21 Barn Hill Wembley. In Oct 1925 a Thomas Makin Draper of Chorley Gate, Chorley Wood, was arrested for driving fast and in a dangerous manner.

It is possible that he died 19 Jan 1941 as Thomas Makin Draper 131164 RASC and is buried Brookwood Cemetery, Surrey, Grave Ref 5 F 1.

Sources:
CWGC
Epsom College Register printed and m/s
Flight Magazine 20 June 1918
Great War forum
Kelly’s directory 1896
MIC for RASC. No medals awarded. Dated 21 May 1920.
The Tamworth Herald 17 Oct 1925
TNA AIR 76/140/167

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Draper, Thomas Makin, s. of dr. T. M. Draper of Watlington, Norfolk, b. 1896, L.S., l. 1911, T/Lt. Beds. Regt., killed in action

Elizabeth Manterfield

Dudfield, Richard George

Birth Year: 1896  
Entered Epsom College: 1890  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.E. 1915-18  
House:  
Rank:  
HMM?  
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Dudfield, Richard George
Duncan, Charles Percy Hochee

**Birth Year:** 1897  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1907  
**Regiment:** T/Lt. Mon. Regt. 1916-18  
**Decorations:**

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Dyer, Harold

**Birth Year:** 1875  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1891  
**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
**Decorations:**

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Dymoke, Walter George

**Birth Year:** 1894  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1909  
**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. R. Berks Regt. Died of wounds 1916  
**Decorations:**

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**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield
Walter was born on 26 October 1894 (GRO Ref: Dec 1894 Barton Regis 6a 101) the son of Dr Frederick Dymoke and his wife Annie nee Weston. They had married in 1887 (GRO Ref Mar 1887 Bristol 6a 22).

In 1901 the family was living at 440 Stapleton Road, Bristol. Frederick was a 37 year old physician and surgeon. Annie was 34. Six year old Walter had two siblings at home with him: Anne aged 11, and Violet 9, and the family employed two servants.

By 1911 the family had moved to a large, 12 roomed house, 21 Cotham Road, Bristol. Walter was at Epsom College, but Anne, Violet and his third sibling 18 year old Frederick were living at home.

Walter had been educated at Bristol Grammar School and then entered Epsom College on 16 Sept 09. He started in the Lower IVth form in Granville House and in the following July had achieved 11th position out of 27 boys. He left in Apr 1911 to go to Bristol University.

He applied for a temporary commission in the regular army on 28 August 1915 and expressed a preference to join the Royal Engineers, especially the Signalling Section because he had undertaken 10 months training at the London Telegraph Training School. He could ride and had been in the OTC where he achieved Class 8 with the comment “In qualifying steadily he should be satisfactory.” On 25 Sept 1915 he was commissioned as Temp 2nd Lt.

He received gunshot wounds to his abdomen, buttock and thigh on 1 October 1916. He was taken to 49 Casualty Clearing Station at Contay on the road between Amiens and Arras, Somme but died there on 3 October 1916 aged 21. His father wrote to the War Office on 10 October saying that he and Walter’s mother would greatly wish to have his remains brought to England for interment. They received a response dated 17 October explaining that “the regulations made by the French government do not allow bodies of officers being brought to this country for burial.”

Walter was awarded the British and Victory medals which were sent to his father at Rydal Mount, 21 Cotham Road Bristol. His belongings returned from the front comprised: letters, a refill for AB153 (what is this?), scarf pin, compass in case, a cheque book, a khaki collar, two leather straps, a pocket knife, a whistle and lanyard, a leather card case, a key ring and 3 keys, a tobacco pouch, wrist watch, watch chain, half a sixpence charm, silver cigarette case, nail scissors and 1 sleeve link.

His death announcement published in a newspaper stated that he was in 9 Bn. Officers tended to move between battalions and even regiments depending on where the need was greatest. It may be that Walter was 9bn attached to the 6th.

Probate was granted on 18 Feb 1929 to Annie Dymoke, his mother, who had been widowed in 1927 and to Alan Tonkin, an accident superintendent. His effects valued at £207 12s 11d.

He was buried in Contay British cemetery, grave II A 118.

Sources:
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Free BMD
Medal Index card
Probate
Soldiers died
TNA WO 339/43447
Macormack Charles Easmon

Dr MCF Easmon OBE

The following is taken from a biographical sketch of my father by Christopher Fyfe, an eminent historian of Sierra Leone and colleague of my father, which I understand he was preparing for the National Dictionary of Biography

“….Similarly, with the outbreak of war in 1914, he was excluded from commissioned rank, reserved for those 'of pure European parentage'. He was however (presumably to avoid the public outcry refusing him a commission would have caused in Freetown) sent unobtrusively on duty to Cameroun with the ungazetted rank of temporary lieutenant and served in the campaign there, 1914-15, making him almost the only African to have served as an officer in the Great War.”

I have checked the last point with the Imperial War Museum and it is their opinion that he was almost certainly the first African to serve as an officer in this war. The records at Kew indicate that my father was accepted for war service with the Sierra Leone Medical Service in November 1914. He was one of fourteen medical officers from Sierra Leone posted to Cameroon. There were about 1000 allied casualties during the campaign, but as so often at that time disease was a bigger problem than battlefield injury.

The three African campaigns of the 1914-18 war (South West Africa, Tanganyika and Cameroon and Togo) are now almost forgotten and will I suspect receive scant mention this anniversary year. Germany came late to the “Scramble for Africa” and in 1914 only had these three widely separated territories in Africa.

My father spoke little of the war. One story he did tell was of his return to Freetown. He was asked to take off his officers' uniform as the sight of an African officer might upset the colonial order of things. He took off his ordinary uniform and put on his full dress uniform (with sword) before disembarkation and then strolled home through the streets of Freetown. A move not likely to endear him to the colonial authorities.
Eccles, Henry Ernest Kerslake

Rank:  
Decorations: M.C.

Eccles, Henry Ernest Karslake (1894-1962). M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), F.F.A.R.C.S. [Epsom College 1910-1912]) was the son of Dr G. T. Eccles of Hove, Sussex. He received his medical training at St Bartholomew’s Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Major with the R.F.C. and R.A.F. (1915-1919). He was awarded the Military Cross (M.C.) before being invalided out with a serious leg wound. This wound precluded him from service during the Second World War, when his hospital work increased even more because of the absence of his colleagues with the Services. In fact, he was left to work as one of the only non-military anaesthetists in Sussex and along the south coast. In 1926 he was elected to the staff of the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, as a Consultant Anaesthetist. In 1956, he was elected President of the Section of Anaesthetics of the British Medical Association.

Edridge-Green, Henry Allen

Regiment: Lieut. R. Welch Fus. desp. Airship pilot. Died of wounds 1918  
Unit: RFC (airship pilot)  
Rank: Lt.  
Decorations:

Henry Allen was born 9 July 1894 (GRO ref: Sept 1894 Hendon 3a 225), the son of Frederick William Edridge-Green CBE, MD, FRCS and Minnie Jane nee Hicks who were living at 6 Ravensfield Villas, Hendon. They had married 25 April 1893 at Finchley. Allen, as he was known to his family, was baptised in the parish church at Hendon on 7 Aug 1894.

A brother Frederick Nigel was born in 1897 at the same address but died the following year. This was to be followed by the death of Henry’s mother in 1901. In 1901 6 year old Allen and his 47 year old widowed father were living at 99 Walm Lane, Willesden Green, Cricklewood NW with one servant. His father was described as a physician occupied with scientific research, and Allen was a scholar.
Allen was attracted to flying from an early age, probably inspired by the local Grahame-White School of Flying at Hendon where he learnt to fly on a Grahame-White Bi-plane. On 23 Mar 1914 he attained his RAC aviator’s certificate.

On leaving school he joined 6 Duke of Cambridge’s Own Middlesex Regiment in the Regular Army. His appointment to the Special Reserve as Lieutenant was confirmed 28 Aug 1912. Whilst at the barracks in Kingston-upon-Thames in 1913 he enquired about the regulations to be admitted to the Colonial Army either in Canada or Australia, but for whatever reason did not pursue these.

He took part in the retreat from Mons on 1 September 1914 and was exposed to the sun near Paris. He developed symptoms that were initially diagnosed as sun stroke: headache, fever, sleeplessness but his restless manner and tremulous movements showed little improvement and he was diagnosed with neurasthenia, colloquially known as shell shock. He was initially signed off for 3½ months, but ill health was to persist for most of his army career. The medical board found him fit for light duties on 6 Dec 1914 and for general duties on 6 January 1915.

He attended Sandhurst and was made under-officer after just one month and passed out after 3½ months. He expressed a preference for a Welsh regiment, because his mother had been Welsh, to be attached to the RFC as he had his flying certificate. But on 14 June 1915 the Medical Officer (MO) of Princess Henry of Battenberg's hospital in Berkeley Square, London found him unfit for duties. Allen was experiencing a constant headache especially when exposed to the sun. He also complained of a pain in his neck and back, and a general “muzziness” in his head, and a period of rest in a nursing home was recommended.

Allen married Katherine Shroeder in London 21 July 1915 (GRO ref: Sept 1915 Willesden 3a 807.) but this was to be a short-lived union and Katherine petitioned for a judicial separation in 1917.

On 15 August 1915 Allen suffered a nervous breakdown. Persistent headaches and insomnia meant he had poor concentration and was easily fatigued. The MO recommended a further period of rest and quiet, and referred him to a specialist, Dr Russell, for a second opinion. Russell concluded that Allen would never be fit enough for the strain of military duty and advised him to give up any ideas of doing so.

By June 1916, however, he had improved sufficiently to undertake light duties and was given the role of a Recruiting Officer, which he did for 7 months.

On 12 October 1916 he asked to be considered for advancement but was turned down because of his lengthy spell on the sick list. He asked again on 14 Nov 1916 pointing out that he had worked for 7 months on the recruiting staff, had previous service before the war and had been found fit for the Royal Flying Corps. He was to take up a post as Kite Balloon Observer, and join at Roehampton on 31 Dec 1916.

However his health was still giving cause for concern and although the army tried to secure him a post at the Kings Lancashire Military Hospital, the RFC replied that he had been trained for duty as a Balloon Officer and they could not spare him. He was posted to Balloon 3 wing, 36 Balloon Section.

Allen then applied to be a cavalry officer in the Egyptian Army. He pointed out that he had been trained as a gas officer and had done a considerable amount of riding all his life. He was successful in this ambition, but it was not long before he became medically unfit and had to return to hospital in England in October 1917.

During 1918 he undertook various roles as a lieutenant in the RFC and was to be an airship pilot with effect from 21 Aug 1918, but on 1 Nov he was admitted to Castle Mount military hospital, Dover where he died on 5 Nov 1918 aged 24.

Probate was granted to his father the following year. Henry’s address was given as the Service Club, Stratford Place, Middlesex. He left £104 17s 3d. Frederick’s solicitors Moon, Giles and Moon of Bloomsbury, London advertised in the London Gazette 2 May 1919 for anyone who might have a claim against Allen’s estate.

He was buried at St James, Dover Kent Ref G X and is remembered on the Hendon war memorial.

Frederick Edridge-Green CBE, MD, FRCS was still living at 99 Walm Lane, Cricklewood at the time of Allen’s death.

Census 1911 . 1901
CWGC
Ep Reg
Free BMD
Parish registers
Probate
RAC aviation club
Times
TNA

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Edridge-Green, Lieut. Henry Allen, R. Welsh Fus., s. of dr. F. W. Edridge-Green of Hendon, b. 1894, L.S. and G., l. 1910 for R.M.C., desp., airship pilot, d. of wounds 1918
Edwards, Frank Payne

Birth Year: 1876

Entered Epsom College: 1891

Regiment: T/Maj. Australian Medical Corps

Rank

House:

HMM? □

Researcher:


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

FRANK PAYNE EDWARDS (born 1876). M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), D.P.H. (Melbourne) [Epsom College 1891-1894] was the son of Dr Frank Edwards, of Sawston, Cambridgeshire, and brother of Dr Kenelym Cobham Edwards [Epsom College 1891-1894]. He received his medical education at Downing College, Cambridge and the Westminster Hospital, and went into general practice at Sawston, where he was Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Duxford District of the Linton Union. He later emigrated to Australia. During the First World War he served as a Major in the Australian Medical Corps, on a Hospital Ship in the Mediterranean.

Eggar, John Norman, s. of S. J. Eggar, export merchant, of Streatham, b. 1884, W., prefect, XI, h. XI, Brande G.C. Pr., l. 1902, merchant and shipowner, Maj. East Surrey Regt. (T.F.), brother of W., J. E. (1898); Timberscombe, Northway, Godalming

Elderton, Fothergill Rex


Elderton, Fothergill Rex

Died 25/09/15 aged 23

Buried Loos Brit. Cem, France

Reference: Panel 22-25

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

ELDERTON Fothergill Rex (Benny), Lieutenant. 2nd Bn, Royal Warwickshire Regt. 

Killed in Action 25 September 1915, aged 23

Fothergill or "Benny" as he was known was born on 8 May 1892, (GRO reference: June 1892 Kingston 2a 354) at 4, Uxbridge Road, Kingston on Thames. It is possible that this was a nursing home. He was the third child and only son of Charles Robert Elderton and Clara Hunton (nee Batho). 1891 the family was living at Hungerford, Beaufort Road, Kingston on Thames, although Clara was staying with her brother in law Frederick Elderton at Kings Norton Worcestershire. There were two daughters, Gladys Hattie Prescott Elderton, aged 5 who had been born in Calcutta, India, and Lois Caroline aged 18 Charles was a 34 year old shipping agent and insurance broker. the family lived at 29, Arthur Road, Erdington, Warwickshire. The family consisted of Benny's mother Clara, the 39 year old head of the family, sisters Gladys and Lois, and Benny. They employed Mary Ashton to cook for them. I 1 Benny now 18 and an engineering student, lived at Pit Cottage, Epsom with his mother Clara, who is earned her living as an insurance agent working from home on her own account. Be y as educated at the Grange, Matfield, Kent and at Epsom College. He was a good all round athlete. After matriculating he attended the City and Guilds Engineering College in South Kensington (later to become part of Imperial College, London University) to train as an engineer. He undertook a three year course in civil and mechanical engineering, and was experienced in working with internal combustion engines. He was an engineer in the London University Officer Training Corps, and was a candidate for a commission in the Regular Army. He spent a year in workshops in Switzerland where he won the hurdles race and was second in the high jump at the International Sports meeting in Zurich a fortnight before war broke out. He returned home and four days afterwards was gazetted to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. At Christmas 1914 he went to the front and fought at La Bassée, Aubers Ridge, Givenchy and Festubert. Whe h attested for war service in 1914 he was 22 years old, 6 feet ¾ inches tall, had a 34 inch chest with a 3 inch expansion. He weighed 145lbs with good vision, hearing and teeth and was classed as fit. He was of good moral character. He was a qualified marksman, having shot at Bisley 1908 and 1909. He was also able to ride. He expressed a desire to serve in the infantry, and initially joined the 3rd Battalion Warwickshire Regiment, a training Battalion that stayed in the UK for the duration of the war. He later served with the 2nd battalion which was in the 22nd Brigade, 7th Division. In September 1914 he was stationed at Parkhurst. His commission appeared in the London Gazette 11 Sept 1914. On 30 Dec 1914 he applied to go into the Royal Flying Corps (RFC). He was 22yrs 8mths, weighed 11st 2lb, was certified fit, and placed on the RFC waiting list. He expected to be gazetted in September had he not been killed. He was proficient in map reading and sketching. He was promoted Lieutenant in February. The family lived at several addresses: Matfield, Worple Road, Epsom; in 1909 Pit Cottage, Epsom. Later the family had another house they called Hungerford at Alexandra Road, Epsom. He was mentioned in despatches, fought at Neuve Chappelle, Aubers Ridge, La Bassée and Festubert, and was killed on the first day of the battle of Loos, at or near The Quarries, Artois in on 25 September 1915 aged 23. He was unmarried. A telegram dated 1 October 1915 announced his death "Deeply regret to inform you that Lt Elderton of Royal Warwickshire Regiment was killed in action between 25/26 September. Lord Kitchener expresses his sympathy." There is no record of his body being discovered. At the time of his death he was serving with the 2nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment. On 25th September 1915, one hundred and fifty five men and 8 officers from the 2nd Warwicks lost their lives. The following is an extract from the Battalion War Diary for 25 September 1915: In the Trenches /25th/5.50am/ our bombardment ceased. Our advance commenced at 6.30am. took German front line trench then support trench then on to The Quarries as far as St Elie. Captured about 60 prisoners; arrived at this position at 9.30am. Kept to it till after dark when we had to retire owing to the 9th Division on our left retiring. Occupied "Quarries" until midnight when we took up a position in the support trench 400 yards west of the "Quarries". Up to this time the following officers were killed Lt Col B L roy DSO (died of wounds). Capt NHL Matear, Lieut FA Elderton, Lieut HE Edwards, Lieut J Pennington, Lieut JFO Mansergh, Lt KM Gaunt, 2Lieut TE Newsome, and the following were wounded Capt JP Burke, Capt LR Swinkre, Capt JS Knyvet, Lieut RF Richardson, 2Lieut BG Hill, 2Lieut SWW Cannon, 2Lieut N Allen, 2Lieut EW Blenkning, 2Lieut PH Fumer. Missing. 2Lieut PHW Herbage. Other ranks : Killed 64 wounded 171 Missing 273. The Battalion could only muster (1) officer and 140men. His military effects included a writing pad, photos, 1 cheque book, a pocket book "Where is it?" and £79 14s 10d. These, were sent via Cox and Co Army Shipping agents 16 Charing Cross, London to his mother at Pendoylan, Ashley Road, Epsom. She also received the War Service Plaque and Seal. His sisters, Gladys Hattie Prescott Elderton and Lois Caroline Elderton, were his executors and his estate was valued at £547 1s 5d. The followin appeared in the St Martin's Church Parish Magazine: LIEUTENANT F. R. ELDERTON. Lieutenant F o er Il Rex Elderton, 2nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who was killed in France while "nobly leading his men" on September 25th, aged twenty-three, was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Elderton, of Pendoylan, Epsom. He was educated at Epsom College
and was in engineering works in Switzerland when war was declared. He returned to England by the first train to get through, a
journey which took five days, during the whole of which time he was standing, the train being so full that no seat could be
found. Within a quarter of an hour of his arrival at Waterloo, he was at the War Office. Four days later he received his
commission in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. At Christmas he was sent to the front, and took part in the actions at Neuve
Chapelle, La Bassée, Aubers Ridge, Givenchy, and Festubert. He was mentioned in despatches for the way he led his bombers
into action on Sept. 25th at Loos. A brother officer writes, “Had he lived I feel sure he would also have appeared in the Honours
List.” He was promoted in February and was on the waiting list for the Royal Flying Corps, to which he expected to be gazetted
in October. A good all-round athlete, he won the high jump at Epsom College, also at the Queen’s Club while training at the
Central Technical College for engineering at Kensington, and about a fortnight before war broke out he won the hurdles and
was second in the high jump at the International Sports at Zurich. He was a member of the Epsom golf, cricket and hockey
clubs, and a very fine swimmer. It is interesting to note that he was the only male representative of his generation of one
branch of an old family whose arms are to be found on Magna Charta. Benny Elderton as thorough sportsman, full of
keenness, and very popular. In his last engagement he was in the front row of the bombers, and a friend who saw him the day
before the attack heard him say how pleased he was at having a front seat. He was the first over the parapet of the second
German trench, and it was as he turned smiling with a "Come on boys, don’t hang back," that he fell. Alas! there is no record of
his burial place, but his near relatives are giving a Sanctuary Lamp to the Church, as a Memorial of his brave young life. The
lamp will symbolise the undying light of sacrifice, accepted before the Altar, on which is memorialised that Sacrifice, which is the
Light of the World, illuminating with its radiance and inspiring with its fire, all that readiness to die, which is the glory of our
sons and brothers. R.I.P. The Epsom and Ewell Advertiser for 11 February 1916. carried the following report: Elderton. Parish
church sanctuary lamp. "I understand that the Vicar and churchwardens have been authorised to apply for a faculty for placing
in the Parish Church a sanctuary lamp, presented as a memorial to Lieut. Fothergill Rex Elderton, who lost his life in France on
the 25th September last whilst bravely leading his men." The St Martin's Church Book of Remembrance has an entry for 'Benny'
in recognition of the gift of a 'Sanctuary Lamp' given in his honour. The entry reads as follows: FOTHERGILL REX ELDERTON. The
Sanctuary Lamp was given in proud and loving memory of Lieut: Fothergill Rex (Benny) Elderton, the only and very dearly loved
son of Charles Robert and Clara Hunton Elderton of Pendoylon, Epsom. He was educated at Matfield Grange, Kent, Epsom
College, and the College of Engineering, Kensington (Lond:Univ). He joined H.M. Forces on Sept. 12th 1914, and served with the
2nd Bn. Royal Warwickshire Regt. Taking part in the battles of Neuve Chappelle, Aubers Ridge, La Bassée, and Festubert, and
was killed at Loos on Sept. 25th 1915, in his 24th year. He was mentioned in despatches for gallant and distinguished service in
the field. His entry in the St Martin’s Church Roll of Honour states that: FOTHERGILL REX ELDERTON, whose career is recorded
in earlier pages of this book was killed at Loos on the 25th Sept 1915. He was mentioned in despatches. Fothergill Rex Elderton is
listed on the Loos Memorial, France. His name also appears on the Ashley Road Epsom, the Epsom College and St Martin’s
Church Epsom Memorials.

Ellison, Cuthbert Wynford

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<th>Regiment:</th>
<th>Decorations:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>Capt. (T.F.R.) R.A.M.C. (San. Serv.) 1918</td>
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## Ellison, Hubert Henry Lacey

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## Ells, Frank Charles

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<td>HMM?</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>T/2nd Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1917-18</td>
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Ells, Frank Charles, s. of C. G. Ells, marine underwriter, of Sutton, b. 1889, W., I. 1905, underwriting member of Lloyds, T/and Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1917-18; Shardeloes, Angmering, Sussex

## Elphick, Harry Noel Keyes

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<td>1908</td>
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## Embleton, Reginald

Embleton, Reginald

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Embleton, Reginald
Embleton, Reginald, M.C., s. of Dr. D. C. Embleton of Bournemouth, b. 1890, F., l. 1906, occupation unknown, T/Capt. R.A.S.C. 1916-18


Eminson, Lieutenant-Colonel Basil Franklin (1887-?). I.M.S., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.O.M.S. [Epsom College 1902-1906. prefect. Rugby XV. Cricket XI. Sterry Prize] was the son of Dr T. B. F. Eminson, of Scotter, Lincolnshire, and brother of John Franklin Eminson [Epsom College 1899-1903]. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, where he won the William Travers Prize for Medicine. He then joined the Indian Medical Service, attached to the 28th Light Cavalry, Indian Army, and won the Kaiser I Hind Medal, 1st Class. He served in Burma, Persia, Mesopotamia and Afghanistan. In 1945, he retired from the I.M.S. and became an Ophthalmic Specialist at Scunthorpe Hospital.

Eminson, Ralph Franklin

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Eminson, Lt.-Col. Basil Franklin

Ralph Franklin Eminson (RFE) was born at Scotter in Lincolnshire on May 10th 1889 the son of Dr Thomas B. Franklin Eminson (1853-1940) and his wife Clara Burgess (1860-1958). There was a very strong medical tradition in the family RFE’s grandfather, father, three brothers and in the next generation his son and two nephews all became members of the profession(7). Nine members of two generations went to Epsom College(1).

After the Leys School Cambridge he went to Epsom in 1905, the same year as his brother Robert Astley Franklin (1891-1916) who was killed in action in the Great War. He entered Propert House when he was 16(1). He passed 1st MB in 1906 when in the Modern VI form in the upper school and won an open scholarship to Charing Cross Hospital leaving the College that year. In 1911 he graduated M.B.B.S. winning the gold medal in surgery(7). After resident posts at Charing Cross Hospital he moved into practice with his father at Scotter. Shortly after the start of the war however RFE decided to leave his father’s practice, a fact reported in the local newspaper(2), and join the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC).

“SCOTTER FOR KING AND COUNTRY. - Six young men have left to join Lord Kitchener’s New Army. They are Uriah Loughton, Arthur Snowden, Henry Martin, William Holland, Joe Stocks, and William Fitchett. Dr Ralph Eminson, has also offered his services and is expecting to join the Army Medical Corps at any time.”(2)

On 24th September 1914 in Worcester he married Dorothy Edith Halbeard (1888-1942) and in due course after the war they were to have a son and two daughters, Robert their firstborn being born in 1919. Very soon after their marriage RFE left for the war zone and possibly the thought that he might not survive influenced the young couple with regard to starting a family.

It appears that after joining the RAMC on 10th October 1914 as a T/Lt (LG 28952 p8614) he briefly spent time at the Harwich Garrison, where there were a number of military hospitals receiving wounded from the Western Front, before departing for France landing there on 22nd October 1914(6). Unfortunately his personal record has not been found at TNA and his early service with the BEF is obscure. It seems likely that he served at that time in a Stationary or Base Hospital as although he later received the 1914(5) Star it was not awarded with ‘clasp and roses’ as was the case when the recipient had had been ‘under the close fire of the enemy’ this being defined as ‘within range of the enemy’s mobile artillery’. In November 1915 he was promoted to T/Capt. the rank he held throughout the rest of the war. By 1918 however the demand for experienced RAMC officers from the front line formations was no doubt increasing as attrition took its toll and he found himself very much ‘under the close fire of the enemy’.

He was mentioned in despatches by Field Marshal Haig in a supplement to his despatch of the 20th July 1918 (LG 31088 p15207) where he described what was to be known as the Spring Offensive which took place over six weeks in late March and April 1918, the final German push by Ludendorff to reach the Channel ports which failed after very fierce fighting. By then RFE was in the front line as a regimental medical officer with the 8th North Staffordshire Regiment(5).

It is not clear however at what date he joined this regiment with which he ended the war. The regiment’s previous medical officer, T/Capt. Armstrong RAMC, was wounded for a second time in September 1917 and was awarded the DSO in the field. It seems that he was withdrawn and for a while it appears that there was no medical officer in post. On the 16th November it was recorded in the War Diary that a Lt C.H. Phillips took over the duties of MO but in the list of officers serving with the regiment dated 31st January 1918 there is neither mention of Phillips nor Eminson. The first mention of RFE in the War Diary was dated 22nd June 1918 when “Capt. R.F. Eminson RAMC was awarded DSO“. Four other officers received the Military Cross and a number of other gallantry awards were made at the same time following heavy fighting which took part at the beginning of June. It seems therefore that he took over the duties of regimental MO with the 8th North Staffordshire’s sometime between February and June 1918. The citation which accompanied his DSO reads as follows (LG 30901 p10865):

“For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When two companies had made a counter attack and reached a village, were obliged to fall back 150 yds, suffering heavy casualties, whom it was impossible to rescue owing to the accurate machine-gun and rifle fire from the village, this officer went himself, regardless of fire, and in full view of the enemy, across ‘No Man’s Land’ many times, and carried and assisted the wounded, who otherwise would have been left.”(3)

The battle in which RFE with many others played such a heroic part was the Battle of Bligny which took place in June 1918. At the end of May the Germans attacked in strength between the Marne and the Aisne. The 56th Brigade, comprising the 8th N Staffs, the 4th K.S.L.I. and the 9th Cheshires were pushed back from Chambrecy and eventually made a stand at Bligny Hill. The Shropshire Regimental Museum has placed an account of the bloody battle which took place there on its website. The 56th Brigade was awarded a ‘Unit Award’ of the French Croix de Guerre for Bligny 6th June 1918, such an award being a very rare event in the Great War. The successful outcome prompted a ‘Special Notice’ which is displayed in the Battalion records extracted from Order No. 60 issued by the General commanding the 5th French Army(5) (see below). It was sent to “The 56th Brigade, [which 8th N Staffs had joined when it left 57th Brigade in February 1917] under the command of Brigadier General
“On the 6th June 1918 charged with the defence of the important position of the mountain of BLIGNY, they maintained their positions for many hours against the attacks of an enemy superior in numbers and who had almost surrounded them. Obliged by the last attack to give ground they counter-attacked immediately. This attempt being checked, a new counter-attack, led with magnificent dash by the Battalion in reserve [4th KSLI] threw the enemy from the BLIGNY mountain, took 30 prisoners, and re-established entirely the line which was then maintained in spite of violent bombardment.”

When RFE’s wife died on 17th December 1942, according to her probate record, the name of the house in which they lived was Bligny in Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire. RFE retired from the RAMC with the rank of Captain in December 1918 and returned to civilian practice in Lincolnshire (LG 31115 p483).

He took up practice in Scunthorpe and was an active member of local medical committees and a strong supporter of the local BMA becoming chairman of the Scunthorpe Division in 1937-1938. He and his wife, who before her early death was a member of the local bench, were respected members of the local community. It is clear from his obituary that he was gentle and thoughtful man who was very highly regarded by his medical colleagues and patients.

He died on 19th Nov 1958 (GRO Scunthorpe 3b 392) after a long illness which he bore with great fortitude and is buried in the cemetery of St Peter Ad Vincula Church, Bottesford, Lincolnshire in the grave where his wife who died in 1942 had been buried before him.

Sources:
1 Epsom College Register 1855-1954 & Yellow Books.
2 “Lincolnshire Star” 1914
4 Ancestry: Find a grave index.
5 TNA War Diary WO 95/2082/1
6 Medal Roll Index
7 Obituary: British Medical Journal 13 Dec 1958: p1479
London Gazette (LG)

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

Eminson, Ralph Franklin (1889-1958).
Epsom College: 1905-1906
RALPH FRANKLIN EMINSON (1889-1958). D.S.O., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), L.M.S.S.A. [Epsom College 1905-1906] was the son of Dr T. B. F. Eminson, of Scotter, Lincolnshire, brother of John Franklin Eminson [Epsom College 1899-1903], Robert Astley Eminson [Epsom College 1905-1909], and Dr Clarence Franklin Eminson [Epsom College 1909-1912]. He won an Open Scholarship to Charing Cross Hospital, and in the M.B., B.S. Examination won the gold medal for surgery. He then went into general practice at Scotter, Lincolnshire, and later at Scunthorpe. During the First World War he served in the British Expeditionary Force in Flanders, as a Captain with the R.A.M.C., and was awarded the D.S.O. (1918). He was mentioned in despatches for his conspicuous gallantry, his devotion to duty and rescue work. The citation read: “When two companies who had made a counter-attack and reached a village, were obliged to fall back 150 yards, suffering heavy casualties, whom it was impossible to rescue owing to the accurate machine-gun and rifle fire from the village, this officer went himself, regardless of fire, and in full view of the enemy, across ‘No Man’s Land’ many times, and carried and assisted the wounded, who otherwise would have been left”. He was Chairman of the Scunthorpe Division of the British Medical Association (1937-1938), and a member of the Executive Council for the County of Lindsey.
EMINSON Robert Astley Franklin, Second Lieutenant, 6th Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps attached to 2nd Brigade Machine Gun Corps

Died Thursday 20 July 1916 aged 24

Robert was born on 23 August 1891, (GRO ref: Dec 1891 Gainsborough 7a 683) the fourth son of Thomas Benjamin Franklin Eminson and his wife Clara nee Burgess) of Gonerby House, Scotter, Lincolnshire. His parents had married in 1885 (GRO ref: June 1885 Spilsby 7a 1168).

In the 1891 census, before Robert was born, Thomas, aged 37, was a registered general medical practitioner. Clara was away visiting, but their three sons John aged 5, Basil 3 and Ralph 1 were at home. Thomas’s sister-in-law was staying and there were two servants in the house.

In the 1901 census 9 year old Robert was living with his parents along with his five year old brother Clarence. The family employed a governess, a general servant and a groom—come—gardener. His three older brothers John, Basil and Ralph were not at home.

Robert was educated initially at Mr Owen’s school, Birkdale, Southport, but then, like all the brothers, went to Epsom College. He and Ralph started on 21 September 1905, although Ralph left the following year. Robert was awarded an Entry Scholarship. He continued to be an able student and in his last two years at the College he finished third in his year. He passed his Lower School Certificate in 1906 and matriculated in 1907. He was made a Sub-Prefect and did not play in any of the College’s first teams for sport. In 1909 he was awarded the Doncaster Gift scholarship of £25 pa for three years whilst at university and went up to Downing College, Cambridge to study Natural Science. He achieved a second class honours in the Natural Science tripos in 1911 and a Special Diploma in Agriculture with distinction in Geology in 1912.

In the 1911 census, Ralph aged 21, a medical student at Charing Cross Hospital and Robert, 19, who was down from Cambridge, were staying with their parents. The family still employed a governess and a general servant.

The following information is taken from http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Scotter/section.asp

From 1912-1915 Robert was appointed as an assistant entomologist to the British South Africa Company and in January 1913 was sent to Northern Rhodesia to research the tsetse fly—the scourge of cattle and horses and the cause of sleeping sickness in humans.

He returned home in January 1915 to volunteer for military service, and applied for an appointment in the Special Reserve 9 May 1915. On the medical declaration form he stated that he had not had any serious illnesses or fits, but he was short sighted.
in his left eye. On 3 June he was gazetted to the King's Royal Rifle Corps as a Second Lieutenant. He was seconded for duty in the 2nd Bn, 3rd eschelon of the Machine Gun Corps on 26 January 1916. He was awarded leave to spend in England 22-29 March 1916 and then sent on a course of instruction at the Machine Gun School 12 June 1916. His effectiveness was commended by Major-General Holland commanding the First Division. "I have read with great pleasure the report of your conduct on the night of 5/6 April in Loos Grassier in handling most effectively your machine gun when the Germans exploded a mine."

From his commendation until his death in action on the Somme, Robert Eminson experienced six 'tours' in the trenches and was twice subjected to gas attacks. The King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle recorded "on 29 April at 4:00am the gas gongs and the bugle sounded 'Gas'...", and on 14 July when, "during the afternoon, the Germans threw a particularly disgusting type of shell into Becourt Wood. The fumes of these shells made our men sick. We suffered 47 casualties, and 15 died from the effects of these fumes."

Four days later the 2nd Battalion moved up west of Bazentin-le-Petit Wood into the second line trenches, with the Northamptonshires on their left. King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle recorded that in the early hours of 20 July, "at 2:30am, the Northants Regiment attacked the German trenches... It was a bombing attack and not successful owing to heavy machine-gun fire. 2nd Lieutenant Eminson was gallantly endeavouring to bring in a wounded sergeant when he was killed."

The wounded man was Sergeant Samuel Yerrell of the Northants. With both arms shattered by a bomb, he was helped back to the lines. Too exhausted to negotiate the barbed wire, he collapsed. "Then a Second Lieutenant jumped out of our trench and went to help them... a German fired at them, the bullet passing through Sam's back and right through the officer's heart. The officer was killed instantly, and poor Sam died an hour later... The brave officer...was Lieutenant Eminson.'

2nd Lieutenant Harry Holmes, a fellow machine gunner in the 2nd Battalion, sent his account of the incident to Doctor Franklin Eminson in Scotter:

"There were a good many casualties and on the following morning your son observed a wounded man lying outside the trench, unable to get in by himself. He at once crawled out to him but found there would be some difficulty in getting him through the wire. It was after going out for the third time to reconnoitre a way in through the wire that the enemy machine gun caught him. The Battalion doctor went out to see if he could do anything, but your son was already dead.

He has been recommended for the VC, both by the C.O. of this Company, and by the C.O. of the Battalion in question, but I am very much afraid that owing to the circumstances of the case, his very fine act will not meet with the recognition it deserved. I think however the best tribute which I can pay him, and his end, is to tell you what a corporal who witnessed the incident said to me 'Well Sir' he said 'no man could die better'."

Henry Tillett, his batman, felt the same way. On 24 July he wrote to Robert Eminson's mother:

"I was his servant and I cannot express in writing how very, very sorry I am and the rest of the men in losing such a good Officer... We will never forget the heroic way he gave his life to save another... and my comrades hope you will not take it to heart, but bear up in the knowledge that he was an Hero, a soldier and a man."

Robert Eminson is buried in grave I.S.16 in Becourt Military Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt, 2 km east of Albert, France. The base of his tombstone is inscribed 'The noble army of martyrs praise thee'

He is commemorated on four war memorials - Epsom College, Downing College, Scotter, and in Zambia (Northern Rhodesia) at the Victoria Falls. Two of the Eminson family gravestones also remember him: that of his Aunt Maria Jane Eminson, in Scotter churchyard, records her three nephews who died in action during the Great War - Robert Eminson, Herbert Eminson and Herbert L. Eminson; that of his parents, in Scotter cemetery, carries this simple inscription:

"Robert Astley Franklin Eminson, 2nd. Lieutenant KRRC... killed in France trying to save a fellow soldier 20th July 1916. Greater love hath no man than this".

Sources:
This biography has used the information provided on the
http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Scotter/section.asp
http://www.bbc.co.uk/remembrance/wall/recor
Supplemented by the following sources:
TNA W O 339/53731
Census 1881,1891,1901,1911
Epsom Register m/s
Epsomian-checked but nothing found.
King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle
Soldiers Died
Emmett, Roger Henry

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Capt R.E. 1914-18

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

Epsom College: 1907-1912

ROGER HENRY EMMETT (1894-1981). T.D., M.A. (Cantab.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), J.P. [Epsom College 1907-1912] was the son of Dr Richard Emmett, of Portsmouth. He received his medical education at Trinity College, Cambridge, and St George’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Portsmouth, where he was also Honorary Anaesthetist to the Royal Portsmouth
Hospital. In 1946, he was appointed a magistrate for the City of Portsmouth. At the outbreak of the First World War he obtained a commission in the Royal Engineers, and at the commencement of the Second World War he commanded the Hampshire Fortress, Royal Engineers, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, serving in North Africa. In 1948, he was made an Honorary Colonel of the 115 Construction Regiment, Royal Engineers. He was a J.P. for the City of Portsmouth.

**Ensor, Cecil Arthur**

<table>
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<th>House:</th>
<th>HMM?</th>
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<td>1887</td>
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**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

**Rank:**

**Researcher:**

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**Ensor, John Collen**

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<th>House:</th>
<th>HMM?</th>
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<td>1895</td>
<td>1910</td>
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</table>

**Regiment:** T/Lt. Welsh Regt. Died of wounds 1917

**Rank:** Lt

**Unit:** 17th Bn, Welsh Regt

**Buried:** Grevillers, France

**Reference:** P8.RE.G7

**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

---

ENSOR John Collen Lieutenant, 17 Batallion Welch Regiment

DOW 26 Nov 1917 at Bourlon Wood, Cambrai aged 22

John was born in Cardiff 17 April 1895 (GRO Ref: June 1895 Cardiff 11a 384 GRO) the second son of Henry Collen Ensor and his wife May nee Harries (GRO Ref: Sept 1890 Pembroke 11a 1517).

In 1901 the family was living at 23 Windsor Road in central Cardiff. John’s father was a 47 year old surgeon, (although not stated on the census return he was an ophthalmic surgeon) his mother was 35. He had an older brother Aubrey Collen Ensor, 9, who was at school in Weston-super-Mare and a sister Dorothy Collen aged 7. John was 5 years of age. The family employed a cook and a housemaid.

John was educated initially at Llandaff Cathedral School. He entered Epsom College on 3 May 1910, starting in the Upper IV form in Granville house. Shortly afterwards his father died on 23 August 1910. John was recorded at the College on the 1911 census. Although he came bottom in maths in 1911, he was usually in the middle of his year for academic performance and went on to win an Open classical scholarship to Cardiff University College to study medicine. He left Epsom at Easter 1913. Whilst at University he signed up for a four year term in the Territorial Force. He was living at 63 Richmond Road, Cardiff. He was 5ft 9½ inches tall, had a 34 inch chest with a 2inch expansion. He had a good physical development and good vision. He was assessed as fit and was appointed to the Royal Army Medical Corps, 2nd Welsh Field Ambulance as Private 1708. At the outbreak of war he was in camp with the RAMC attached to the College, which mobilised at once but he was not sent overseas.

He was still serving with the 2nd Welsh Field Ambulance when he accepted a commission as a temporary 2nd Lieut on 7 Jan 1915 in the 17 Bn Welch Regiment. This regiment was known as the 1st Glamorgan Bantams. He served in France for two years before being wounded at Bourlon Wood, Cambrai on 24 November 1917. He was admitted to 29 Casualty Clearing Station with multiple gun shot wounds to both arms, his right thigh and back. 28 officers, 457 other ranks and 20 German soldiers were admitted on the same day. His mother was sent a telegram to inform her that he had been wounded but this was followed up
two days later with the news that he had died.

He had not left a will and on 2 July 1918 administration of his effects was granted to his mother. His address was 49 Foxley Lane, Purley, Surrey. His estate was valued at £838 6s 7d. His medals were sent to his mother at 10 Heath Mansions Hampstead London

He is buried in Grevillers British Cemetery, west of Bapaume, in plot VIII E 7 and is also remembered on the Llanishen War memorial in Wales.

Sources:
BMD Y
Census Y 01,11
CWGC Y
Epsomian Y
Ep Reg Y
Ep Yellow Book Y
Probate Y
Soldiers died Y
TNA files WO 339/19153
WO 339/22585
WO 95/415
Times Y
### Evans, Daniel Davies Gordon

<table>
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<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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**Biography:**
Daniel Davies Gordon was the son of Dr Evan Evans of Llanelly, South Wales. He received his medical education at King's College, Cambridge, and St Bartholomew's Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. He specialised in ophthalmology and was initially appointed Clinical Assistant at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital and the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital, before an appointment as Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children. He was then appointed Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Victoria Hospital, Southend, and Ophthalmic Surgeon for the County Borough of Southend Education Authority.

### Evans, David John

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<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
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**Biography:**
David John was the son of A. S. Evans, draper's assistant, of Cowbridge, Glamorgan, South Wales. He received his medical education at St Thomas's Hospital, and went into general practice at Cowbridge, where he was Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Cowbridge, Tuberculosis Physician for Brecknockshire, and Visiting Physician at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Cowbridge. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1915-1918). He played for the United Hospitals and Cardiff Rugby XVs.

### Evans, Eric Charles Courtenay

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<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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**Biography:**
Eric Charles Courtenay was a Lieutenant in the Queen's 5th Battalion. He died on 23/03/18 aged 24 and is buried in Chauny, France. His reference is 2. A. 16.
Eric was born 28 October 1894 (GRO Ref: Dec 1894 Epsom 2a 11) son of Charles Courtenay Evans and his second wife Lydia Burdett nee Shelley. His parents had married on 9 September 1891 at St Marks Reigate. (GRO Ref: Sept 1891 Reigate 2a 318). In 1901 the family was living in Huntingdon Lodge in Benhill Road, Sutton. Charles was a 44 year old chartered accountant. Lydia was 34. 6 year old Eric had 5 siblings: Herbert aged 18 also a chartered accountant, Alan aged 8, Gerald 4, Lionel 1 and Roger who was a month old. The family had a nursemaid and a servant. Charles died at Sutton on 7 March 1902 of acute pneumonia. He had been employed by Smallfield Rawlins and Co, King William Street, London EC.

Eric’s mother enrolled Eric and his brother Gerald to start Epsom College on 19 Jan 1910 as “Home Boarders”. They were living at Llanrhos, Burnell Road, Sutton, Surrey. Eric achieved 11th place out of 22 boys in the Modern Middle Fourth form in Wilson House in 1910 and came in joint 7th place out of 20 boys in the Modern Fifth form in the following year. He had not served in the OTC at school. Eric left at Christmas 1912.

In 1911 16 year old Eric was living with his widowed mother and 4 brothers, Alan who was an 18 year old merchant’s clerk, Gerald 14, Lionel 11 and Roger 10. The family had moved to a 10 roomed house, “Royston”, on Bridgefield Road, Cheam, Surrey and employed one servant.

Eric enlisted as Private 1781 in 1/16 London Regiment (Queen’s Westminster Rifles) on 5 August 1914. He was living at 22 Henderson Road, Wandsworth Common. He was employed by C Tennant and Sons as a commercial clerk. This may have been the company that founded the London Metal Exchange and traded in metals and ores. He was 5 ft 7ins tall, had a 33¼inch chest which could expand to 36 ins. He had good vision, and a good physical development. He was fit for service in the 16 bn City of London Queens Westminster Rifles as Rifleman 1781. He went to France on 1 Nov 1914. He was appointed Lance Corporal without pay on 19 June 1915 and to Corporal on 28 May 1915. He was serving in A Company, No 3 Platoon, QWR with the BEF when he was discharged to a commission in 5 Bn Royal West Surrey (Queens) Regiment on 23 September 1915. A letter on his file requests his early release to report to 2/5 Bn. He had served 1 year 50 days service, 88 days of which was on Home Service and 326 days in France. It is interesting to note that by the time of his commission he had grown in height to 5ft 10ins.

On 29 Oct 1917 Eric and Lt GC Evans (possibly Eric’s brother Gerald Courtenay Evans) and 7 ORs were sent to reinforce 7 bn. Eric joined D Company (Coy).

9 Feb 1918 proceeded from the Front to 11th Army school but returned in March. (Date unknown. Pages of war diary lost.) Eric was reported wounded and missing on 23 March 1918 during a British counter attack in the Vendeuil Sector. They had been subjected to a German barrage and gas attack on 21st. The entry in 7 Bn Queen’s Royal West Surrey war diary for 22-24 Mar 1918 describes the circumstances in which Eric lost his life:

“On 22 Mar took up defensive positions with Bn HQ at S17c27 near St Quentin Canal. D Coy was in the centre with C on its left, A on it s right and B is support. At 0600 on 23 Mar 2 French Bns came forward to counter attack and retake Tergnier but were disorganised in the thick fog. Lt Col Bushel (CO 7 Bn and awarded the VC for leading C Coy 23 Mar 18) went forward to ascertain the situation and to lend flanking assistance to the French. He was wounded in doing so but rallied French and English troops and led them forward in a counter attack. Large bodies of the enemy were seen on the left flank and the West Surreys were compelled to withdraw to theoriginal positions. The mist gradually cleared it became evident that the enemy had worked through Hallett Wood and was proceeding in large numbers down the Tergnier road. Officer and a few men from A Coy, later 2 officers and a fair number of men from C Coy rejoined. A defensive position was arranged on the western edge of road running NS& through Frieres Wood. The Bn HQ details massed trenches in S22c and collected remnants of companies and other battalions as day came through. Here the enemy were held throughout the day. A French battalion came forward here to counter attack through this position but meeting intense enemy machine gun fire were compelled to withdraw and were immediately followed by the enemy. Major Tortoise the French commandant and other officers of this Bn rushed forward to rally the withdrawing troops. Returning to the attack the enemy were then driven back. As dusk grew on, the whole line withdrew and remnants of the Bn reassembled in Le Posquet Wood. Here Major Tortoise was found and orders were received from Lt Col Ransome DSO for 7 Buffs (East Kent) to withdraw to the Chauny -Villequier-au-Mont road. Here French troops took over the front and the troops of the 55 Bd were withdrawn to Bethancourt where billets were taken over at 0200 24 March. (Map reference Sheet 66 C.S.W.) 7 Bn lost 15 officers killed, wounded or missing on 23 March and Eric is listed as one of these. His personal effects which included a cheque book, and advance book, letters and photographs were returned to his mother by the German government through diplomatic channels and for a while it was hoped that he had been taken prisoner, but his name failed to appear on any prisoner of war lists. On 18 June 1919 the War Office wrote to his mother stating that due to the lapse of time and that Eric’s name was not on a prisoner of war list it had to be presumed that he had died on 23 Mar 1918. Initially Eric was buried at Villequier-Aumont,. CWGC records that only one British soldier had been buried at Villequier-Aumont in a private vault, whilst six British soldiers were buried in the Villequier-Aumont German cemetery. As his effects were returned by the Germans it seems likely that he was one of the men buried in the German cemetery. On 13 Jan 1920 his body was reburied in Chauny communal Cemetery British Extension Aisne grave 2 A 16 as the smaller cemeteries and outlying graves were consolidated.

The 1918 electoral register records Eric and Gerald as living at 3 Crockerton Rd, Wandsworth, SW 17. This is also the address given in the probate record. Administration was granted to his mother on 23 July 1919 and his effects were valued at £149 0s 11d. His brother Gerald applied for his 1914 Star and British War and Victory medals on his mother’s behalf, to be sent to her at 3 Crockerton Road, Wandsworth SW17. A plaque and scroll were also sent to her at this address.

On 7 Jan 1943 Eric’s brother Lionel, who was living at Haylands, Clifton Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, wrote to the War Office stating that he had been granted letters of administration for his brother on 23 July 1919. He was also joint executor for his mother’s will. In clearing up a trust fund of which his mother was life tenant, he had identified that a share of this fund would have devolved to his brother if he had lived and reverted to his mother on his death. He requested a certificate that the
circumstances of his brother’s death were such as to give rise to a remission of death duties. The sum involved was £422.

Sources
Free BMD
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Electoral Register
Epsom Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Great War Diaries 1914-18 7bn QRWS
Probate
Soldiers died
TNA WO 374/23020

Evans, The Rev. John Maurice Llewellyn

- Regiment: T.C.F. 1914-1918
- Birth Year: 1870
- Entered Epsom College: 1882
- House: HMM?
- Rank

Evans, The Rev. Noel

- Regiment: C.F. 1915-20
- Birth Year: 1886
- Entered Epsom College: 1899
- House: HMM?
- Rank

Evans, Thomas Charles Cann

- Regiment: Maj. Australian Medical Corps 1914-18
- Birth Year: 1885
- Entered Epsom College: 1897
- House: HMM?
- Rank

Major Thomas Charles Cann Evans, D.S.O., A.A.M.C., M.B., B.S., 1885 – 1965

Thomas Charles Cann Evans (TCCE) was born in 1886 in Budleigh Salterton, Devon, the son of Dr Thomas George Evans (1857-1933), himself the son of a doctor, and his wife Mary Bond (1860-1919). They had married in Axminster in 1884, where they had both been born (GRO 5b 17). They had three children, TCCE, his brother Maurice Cann E. (1896-1992) who became a tea planter in Ceylon and a sister Mary Eloira E. (1889-1919) who sadly drowned on a voyage from Australia to Liverpool when she was 30 in December 1919.

It seems that sometime between 1911 and 1915 Dr Thomas George Evans moved to Australia and TCCE followed him shortly after. Mary Evans died in Sydney in August 1919 and in 1920 Dr Thomas George E. married again in New South Wales, Margaret M Barling with whom he had a son, John Barling Evans (1924-2004) who became an engineer in Australia.

TCCE entered Epsom College in the Lower school in Forest House in 1897 in the Lower Middle 4th form coming 4th at the end of the year. He gradually moved up the school moving from the junior house to Propert reaching the matriculation form in 1902 where he remained for two years. In 1903 he became a
sub-prefect and then school prefect in 1904 when he was in the upper sixth. Although quite small in stature, according to his medical record when he joined the Australian Imperial Force later he was just 5ft 7inches and weighed 10 stone, in his final year he played in the rugger XV and hockey X1, and that year won the Brande Good Conduct prize and a scholarship to St Mary’s Hospital. He left school at the end of the year to read medicine.

He served in the City of London Yeomanry for three years from 1907 until 1910 when he terminated his service. He qualified MB BS (Lond.) on the 30th Dec 1910 and in 1911 was a house surgeon in Paddington at St Mary’s Hospi-tal in due course moving to the Fulham Infirmary. He then went to Australia to join his family and worked as a general medical officer at Kyogle N.S.W.3 In 1915 TCCE’s entry in the Medical Register gave his address at Kyogle, Richmond River, NSW Australia where his father was then living.

On 14th January 1915, at the age of 29, TCCE joined the Australian Imperial Force as a Captain in the Australian Army Medical Corps (AAMC). He was appointed regimental medical officer (RMO) to the 7th Light Horse Regiment (LHR) and on the 9th February 1915 he embarked with it to join the 7th Light Horse Brigade, which was already in Egypt, when he boarded His Majesty’s Australian Troopship (HMAT) ‘ITRIA’ A53 at Brisbane. He arrived in Egypt on 16th April 1915.

The 7th LHR was raised in Sydney in October 1914 from men who had enlisted in NSW where TCCE was then practising with his father. In due course it became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade along with the 4th, 5th, and 6th Light Horse Regiments, a Signals Troop, Brigade Train and Field Ambulance. The Brigade sailed from Sydney on 19th December 1914 on HMAT “AJANA” arriving at Suez in Egypt on 29th January 1915 coming under the command of Lt-General Sir William Birdwood G.O.C. of the 1st Australian Division. It was stationed in Heliopolis Maadi and Helwan initially taking part in training exercises and on 2nd April was involved in suppressing a “riot in Cairo, The Battle of the Wazzir” in the red light district, the war diary stressing that troops of the 2nd LH Brigade were not amongst those responsible for the riot.4

TCCE with the 2nd LH Brigade left Alexandria at 4pm on the 16th May 1915 for Gallipoli on the ‘LUTZOW’ which arrived off Cape Helles at 7pm on the 18th. At embarkation 7th LHR had mustered 20 officers and 443 other ranks (OR’s). On the following day they were off Anzac Cove and they were to remain in the Anzac sector throughout the campaign. The Brigade was taken ashore in lighters on 20th May and immediately came under fire. 7th LHR, without its horses, was attached to the 3rd Infantry Brigade and was responsible for the sector on the far right of the Anzac line where it was deployed to reinforce the infantry. The other regiments in 2 LH Brigade were distributed similarly along the line of the 1st Australian Division their main task being to augment the infantry, the terrain being quite unsuited to cavalry.

The story of the Anzacs at Gallipoli has become part of military legend. The fighting qualities of the soldiers, their bravery, determination and tenacity under fire was recognised and respected by friend and foe alike and can only be touched on here. At the end of their first ten days ashore 7th LH Brigade had lost 5 men killed and 52 wounded and this rate of attrition was to continue. On 3rd June 3 men of 7 LHR were buried alive in a landslip. Shelling, sniper fire and bombing from aircraft took their toll. On 25th June General Birdwood visited the Brigade together with his staff and the admiral in charge of the naval force, Admiral de Roebeck. The war diary records “officers (visiting) stated that our trenches were far cleaner & neater & more sanitary than those of allies at Helles”. As one of the four RMO’s TCCE would have taken particular pride in such a comment. Two days later the C. in C. Lieut-General Sir Ian Hamilton also visited them at the front.

Much energy was spent on digging trenches and tunnels as fortifications developed. Enemy tunnels were blown up and hard fighting continued almost constantly. Dysentery and sunstroke and a plague of flies feeding on the rotting unburied corpses which settled on everything added to the problems faced by the medical officers. On one occasion ‘friendly fire’ rained down on them and men were killed when a destroyer at sea misjudged the range as it attempted to shell Turkish positions inland. By the end of September the Brigade had lost 108 killed, 505 wounded and had two men missing. However on 18th September 1915, like so many others, TCCE succumbed to the atrocious conditions and was admitted to the 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station with dysentery. Shortly afterwards he became jaundiced no doubt as a consequence of contracting hepatitis from the infected water and filthy conditions which the Anzacs had had to endure. He was evacuated to Malta on the hospital ship “Maheno” disembarking on the 23rd and was then admitted to the Military Hospital at Tigne, Malta. On 2nd October he departed for England on the hospital ship “Brazile” arriving there on 11th October when he was admitted to the 3rd London General Hospital in Wandsworth. He remained in hospital for much of November and was finally passed as fit for duty by a medical board in London on 10th December 1916.
He appears to have taken a short period of leave in England, during which time he was placed on the supernumerary list of officers, whilst waiting for a passage back to Australia. On the 19th January 1916 he embarked at Portland on the hospital ship “Star of Victoria” serving as Senior Medical Officer on the voyage, eventually arriving at Melbourne on 29th February. However two weeks later on the 16th March he re-embarked on the troopship HMAT “Orsava” at Melbourne arriving in Egypt on 22nd April to join the 13th Australian Field Ambulance in the 4th Australian Division. The Division had formed in Egypt in February 1916 from the original Australian Imperial Force after it had withdrawn from Gallipoli 7 in December. He left Alexandria with the 4th Division on the HT “Orsava” on the 6th June3 disembarking at Marseille on the 13th and soon after moved north to the front line at Armentieres7 in France.

The Anzacs were in the thick of the fighting almost from the moment they arrived on the Western Front. The Battles of the Somme in 1916 started on 1st July and the Australians suffered heavy casualties almost immediately in the battle for Pozières. TCCE was able to take a brief two weeks leave in November in England3 and then again in February 1917. On 29th January he was promoted to Major3 and soon was involved in the Arras offensive, the Battle of Messines in June and then the Third Battle of Ypres7. His participation in the Ypres campaign, in particular the First Battle of Passchendaele was recognised by his being awarded the D.S.O. (LG 30716 p6461) and two citations speak for themselves.

The first citation was dated October 29th 1917:

> “Major TCC Evans. For gallantry and devotion to duty during the operation East of Ypres, in the vicinity of Zonnebeke, from 11th to 24th October 1917. This officer was in charge of transport arrangements in connection with the evacuation of casualties and the running forward of all supplies for the Medical Service. He personally supervised the arrangements throughout making such provision as was possible for the safety of men, horses and vehicles under most trying circumstances. He displayed great forethought and power of organisation in dealing with emergencies particularly on the afternoon of October 12th 1917, when, on both occasions the road in the vicinity of the Wagon Loading Post on the Ypres Zonnebeke Road was being heavily shelled and it was only with extreme difficulty that casualties could be loaded and evacuated.”

In due course this document (Army Form W 3121) was countersigned by Major-General E.G. Sinclair MacLagan, Commanding the 4th Australian Division, and finally approved by Lieut.-General Sir William Birdwood, Commander of the A.I.F (Australian Imperial Force) Army Corps on the Western Front. The award was promulgated in the London Gazette on 31st May 1918 (LG 30716 p6461). However the announcement in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette was not made until 7th November 1918 (p 2110: 39).

Another citation (AFW 3121) was written on 27th February 1918 by Lt. Colonel H. Kenneth Fry4 who by then had taken command of the 13th Australian Field Ambulance. It is possible that this citation, which was not signed other than by the writer, was written to be published in Australia and whilst it drew on the earlier document it added considerable detail about the action and TCCE’s war service. Although dated February 27th 1918 the recommendations for a D.S.O. and two Meritorious Service Medals actually relate to the period between the First and Second Battles of Passchendaele (October 11-26, 1917). Major Thomas Charles Cann Evans, Private Robert John Johnsson (7963) and Sergeant Arnold Doyle Kemp (170 A) were recommended for decoration due to their work at the Advanced Dressing Station during that period. The recommendation for the D.S.O. reads:

> “Major TCC Evans was in command of the combined transport of the three Field Ambulance of the 4th Australian Division between dates of 11th and 26th October 1917 while the division was in action on the PASCHOENDALE Front.”

> “During this action, it was necessary to transport wounded on Horsed Ambulance wagons from a point on the Zonnebeke Road, west of Zonnebeke to the Motor Loading Post, about a distance of a mile. Day and night horsed ambulances worked along this section of the road which was constantly under heavy shell fire. Major Evans personally organised and conducted the loading of wounded onto the wagons and details of reliefs of horse teams and drivers.”
“Major Evans exhibited the greatest contempt of personal danger throughout this difficult and dangerous work. The brilliant example of courage and intrepid fearlessness which he at all times displayed when under fire in most trying circumstances, especially during traffic blocks on this congested road, both cheered and encouraged the men under his command and ensured the successful evacuation of wounded.”

“Major Evans has done the most excellent surgical work with this Field Ambulance almost since its formation and has been present during every action in which the 4th Australian Division has been engaged in France and previously as R.M.O. 7th Australian Light horse Regiment during the Gallipoli Campaign.”

“His work, both surgical and as Transport Officer has always been of the highest order, and he has proved himself [an] energetic, capable and efficient officer.”

Following Field Marshall Haig’s despatch of 7th April 1918 TCCE was mentioned in despatches (MID) with regard to his conspicuous service with the Australian Imperial Force (LG 30706 p6203) during the battles which took place in the Cambrai region in the latter part of 1917. The 4th Australian Division, to which the 13th Field Ambulance was attached, was involved throughout in much of the hardest fighting on the Western Front. In March 1918 it was to participate in the Somme region to stem the Germans final attempts to reach the Channel ports. The battles around Arras, the Battle of Ancre, the action at Villers-Bretonneux, Amiens, Albert and the Hindenburg line all saw them in action.7,8 By the end of the war they had reached the town of Bellenglise where today the 4th Division Memorial now stands beyond the town of Vandancourt8.

The toll was very high and the strain on the medical staff would have been very great. A total of 41,048 casualties occurred of which 11,845 were killed in action, died of wounds or subsequently died; 27,127 were wounded and 2076 became prisoners of war. In the last few months TCCE was detached from the 13th Field Ambulance which he left on the 28th July 1918 when he was appointed as D.A.D.M.S. at HQ 4th Australian Division in France. He took a brief spell of leave in late September in England returning to France on the 10th October.

Although it is not recorded in his service record he must have taken leave in England again over the New Year as on the 2nd January 1919 he married Isabel Dorothy Joyce Dennys (1893-1991) at the Parish Church of St Cuthbert’s, Kensington. Isabel, who became a well known painter and illustrator, was the second daughter of Lt. Colonel Charles Dennys (1852-1928) of the Indian Army, the son of General Julius B Dennys (1822-1907), Indian Army. She worked as a VAD during World War I in Budleigh Salterton and Exeter where she possibly met her future husband and nursed wounded soldiers from Britain and the Commonwealth.

Following their marriage TCCE returned to France and then on 10th March 1919 went back to England on duty. Shortly after this he was granted leave, possibly for medical reasons as mentioned in his record.3 On the 31st May 1919 he returned to Australia on the Aeneas his ‘appointment’, ie service with the military, being finally terminated on 12th September 1919. In due course he received the 1914/1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal with oak leaf, in recognition of his MID.3

After the war TCCE and his wife lived at Kyogle, New South Wales for a while, where TCCE again worked as a doctor, until 1921 when they returned to England where he took up practice again in Budleigh Salterton. Their daughter was born in England in 1922.

He died in Budleigh Salterton, Devon on 5th January 1965 age 80. His wife Isabel died in London in 1991 age 98.

Sources:

1Ancestry
2Medical Register UK
3Australian Imperial Force (AIF) WW1 National Archives of Australia: Service records.
4Australian Imperial Force (AIF) AWM4: Unit War Diaries: 1914-1918
5First World War Embarkation Rolls (AWM)
6AIF Project Univ. NSW Canberra. Australia.
7 LLT: The Long, Long Trail
8 Digger History: myheritage.com/Army-Records
LG London Gazette
Epsom College Register 1855-1954 & Yellow books
GRO - General Registry Office

Charles S Gallannaugh October 2016
### Evans, Thomas Charles Cann (1885-1965)

**Epsom College**: 1897-1904

**THOMAS CHARLES CANN EVANS (1885-1965). D.S.O., M.C., B.Sc., M.B., B.S. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1897-1904. prefect. Rugby XV. Brande Prize] was the son of Dr T. G. C. Evans, of Budleigh Salterton, Devon. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to St Mary’s Hospital, and from there entered general practice at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, where he was also Medical Officer to Budleigh Salterton Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C. with the 13th Australian Field Ambulance (1916-1919) at Gallipoli, Egypt and France, and was awarded the D.S.O. and M.C.**

### Evans, Tyrrell George (1896-1941)

**Epsom College**: 1906-1906

**TYRREL GEORGE EVANS (1896-1941). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1906-1906] was the son of Dr W. G. Evans, of Beckington, Bath. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Beckington, Bath. He was also Honorary Medical Officer to the Victoria Hospital, Frome; Honorary Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the No. 2 District, Frome, and Vice-President of the Abernethian Society. At the start of the Second World War he enlisted in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve as a Lieutenant Commander and was killed in action, on board H.M.S. Jervis Bay, in 1941. He was 45 years old.**

### Ewbank, Charles Henry Preston (1895-1914)

**Epsom College**: 1906-1906

**Charles Henry Preston, s. of dr. Henry Ewbank of Cheltenham, b. 1895, l. 1906, occupation unknown, T/Lt. R.F.C. 1914-18, killed in action, H.M.S. Jervis Bay, 1914**

#### Eyton-Lloyd, John Walthen

**Epsom College**: 1910

**Eyton-Lloyd John Wathen, s. of Dr. W. C. Eyton-Lloyd, b. 1895, l. 1914, occupation unknown, T/2nd Lt. R.F.C. Killed in action in World War 1, 10 Sqn RFC, Chocques Mil. Cemetery, France**
John was born 21 June 1895 in Rhyll (GRO Ref: Sept 1895 St Asaph 11b 301). He was registered as John Wathen E Lloyd, not the hyphenated Eyton-Lloyd. He was the younger son of Dr Albert Eyton Lloyd and his wife Bertha Midwood nee Wathen. His parents had married in 1882 (GRO Ref: Dec 1882 Upton 6c 581).

In 1891, before John’s birth, his family was living at 21 East Parade, Rhyll next door to the hospital. Albert was a 43 year old general medical practitioner and surgeon. Bertha was 36. John’s older brother George was 7 and his sister Lily was 4. The family had two servants.

In 1901 they were still in East Parade Rhyll, where numbers 19 and 21 would be, but the property was recorded as “Eytunurst”. John was living there with his parents and 14 year old sister Lily. They had a governess, cook and a maid.

John’s parents, brother and sister were living there in 1911 and Eytonhurst was recorded as having 14 rooms. Albert and Bertha confirmed that they had had three children all still living. John was away at school.

John was educated initially at Colet House, Rhyl and then entered Epsom College’s Wilson House on 19 January 1910. On Founder’s Day July 1910 he came 13th out of 23 boys in the Upper Third form. The following year he came bottom of 21 boys in Modern Middle 2, but this is probably because he did not complete the year, having left at Christmas 1911.

He signed up for an apprenticeship with Shotton Engineering Company and Sandycroft Foundries, Chester which would conclude in November 1917. He had been in Epsom College’s OTC for 2 years and was Private PS/2947 in the Public Schools and University Men’s Force.

When the war broke out he at once joined the Army, and attested at Chester on 3 Sept 1914 when he a19 years 2 months old. He was 5ft 10½inches tall, weighed 128 lbs, and had a 33½inch chest, 30½inches when not expanded. He had a sallow complexion with brown hair and eyes. He had a mole on his left hip and in his left arm pit. He was of good character. He had not had any serious illnesses or seizures, and had 6/6 vision in both eyes. He was vaccinated on 4 November 1914 and given anti-typhoid jabs on 11 and 22 February 1915. He was posted to 21 Royal Fusiliers as a Private.

For the first year of the war he was based in the UK. He was stationed at Clipstone Camp, Mansfield but wished to be transferred to 33 Division Cycle company at Sherwood Hall Camp. He achieved this on 27 Jul 1915 but transferred back again on 14 September 1915.

John had a couple of brushes with authority during his service career, probably through frustration at being kept in the UK. At Woodcote Camp on 29 April 1915 he was charged with being improperly dressed on drill parade having a pack filled with paper and earned him self 2 days confined to barracks. When he was at Perham Down Camp 17 September 1915 he failed to attend the CO’s parade at 2.30 and left camp without permission. On that occasion he was confined to barracks for 7 days for his trouble.

He applied for a temporary commission with 4 Coy 21 bn Royal Fusiliers on 15 August 1915 and annotated the form that he had also applied for a commission with the Royal Flying Corps and his application was “with the War Office fully completed in every detail including a special medical board, standard of education and moral character for the last 10 years.”

On 14 November 1915 he was posted with the British Expeditionary Force and continued to serve with them until he got his commission and returned to England on 14 March 1916.

He joined No 6 Officer Cadet Battalion at Balliol Oxford 15 March 1916. His appointment to Temp Lieutenant on probation on the General List was published in the London Gazette 29 Aug 1916.

John’s application for the RFC was eventually successful. He was posted to flying school at Bournemouth on 23 Sept 1916. He underwent elementary instruction on 5 Nov 1916, followed by higher instruction on 23 November. He was finally appointed to Flying Officer with effect from 19 December 1916 and he was posted to 10 Sqn, 1st wing of BEF in France on 30 December 1916. It was confirmed in the London Gazette 11 Jan 1917 that he was temp 2nd Lieut Flying Officer.

In the official announcement of his death in The Times, his regiment was stated as RFA. His father wrote to the War Office asking for a correction to be published because, he said, his late son had been very proud of being an airman.

His effects returned home from the front comprised a pilot’s log book, 2 prayer books, 3 cheque books, 1 leather card case, 1 purse, 1 testament, 1 transfer card, 1 motor spirit licence, 1 cigarette case, 1 ID disc, 2 photo cases and photos, 1 pocket wallet, 1 treasury note case, 1 wrist watch and strap damaged, 1 graduation certificate, 1 fountain pen, 1 gold ring, 1 stylo pen, 1 whistle, 1 cigar lighter, 1 cigarette holder, 1 pocket knife, 1 collar pin, 1 advance book.

His CO wrote to his parents and said “Only today I recommended that your son should be promoted to flight commander (Captain) as he had done extraordinarily well since he has been here. I was very fond of him as were the other officers and men of his squadron.”

He is remembered with honour Chocques Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, grave I F 318 The original wooden cross that would have marked his grave is now hanging in St Mary’s Church Guarford as a memorial to him. His grandfather Regd John Bateman...
Wathen was the first rector of the parish. He is also remembered on the Rhyll war memorial. At some point his parents moved from Rhyll to "Alanwood," Avenue Rd., Great Malvern. He was awarded the 14-15 star, British and Victory medals. His Victory medal was on sale in August 2013 for £265.

Source
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom Register
Free BMD
Flight Archive
Times Obituary 14 Jul 1917
TNA files AIR 76/304/73
WO 339/6097

Eyton-Lloyd, John Wathen, s. of dr. A. Eyton-Lloyd of Rhyl, b. 1895, W., l. 1911, T/2nd Lt. R.F.C., killed in action in World War I

Wilson House War Memorial

Eyton Lloyd's original grave marker
Fairbank, Fleet Surg. Christian Beverley

Birth Year: 1874
Entered Epsom College: 1888
Regiment: Fleet Surgeon


EO Doctors

Epsom College: 1888-1893

FLEET SURGEON COMMANDER CHRISTIAN BEVERLEY FAIRBANK (1874-1947). R.N., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1888-1892 Sterry Prize] was the son of Dr Thomas Fairbank of Windsor, Berkshire, and brother of Sir Harold Arthur Thomas Fairbank, D.S.O., O.B.E., F.R.C.S. [Epsom College 1888-1893]. He received his medical education at University College Hospital, and during the First World War served as a Surgeon Commander on H.M.Ss. Vernon, Victory, Hecla and Centurion. No further details known.

Fairbank, Sir Harold Arthur Thomas

Birth Year: 1876
Entered Epsom College: 1888
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C., desp. (3)

1876 - 1961

Of the many famous alumni who passed through the portals of Epsom College in their school days, Harold Arthur Thomas Fairbank (HATF), must rank amongst the most distinguished. The writer, a retired orthopaedic surgeon, remembers from his early training years in the 1950’s and 60’s the esteem in which Tommy Fairbank was still held by his own teachers and realised that Fairbank’s contribution to the development of modern orthopaedic surgery was indeed profound.

Much has been written about him and his illustrious life and for more the reader’s attention is drawn to the list of attached
Harold Arthur Thomas Fairbank was the son of Dr Thomas Fairbank (1843-1880), a general practitioner in Windsor and his wife Mary Louisa Nicholson (1844-1931). He was born at Windsor on 28th March 1876 and had three sisters and a brother who also took part in WW1, Fleet Surgeon Christian Beverley Fairbank, R.N (1874-1947).

Their mother, then living at Burnham, Bucks, entered both boys for Epsom College in 1888, their father having died suddenly when Harold was only four. HATF entered Forest House and started in the Upper Middle II form where he came 3rd of 16 boys. He won the Junior School Scholarship in 1890, was awarded the Choir prize by the College Council and won the Carr divinity prize. By July 1891 he was in the 6th form coming 6 in class at the end of the year and then in 1892 he passed the London Matric, first division. In his final year in the upper 6th he passed the Preliminary Scientific Exam (later known as 1st MB) in physics and chemistry and for good measure won the drawing prize. For part of the year he was marked as absent possibly as a result of illness. He left the College that year going on to Charing Cross Hospital4 his brother Christian having left in 1892 to read medicine at University College Hospital.

HATF initially intended to pursue a career in dentistry. Apparently his uncle had persuaded him to take up dentistry while he was still at school. However having qualified as a dentist he immediately went on to study medicine qualifying in 1898. After house appointments at his teaching hospital he volunteered as a civilian surgeon to serve in the Boer War of 1899-1902 and received the Queen’s Medal with 5 clasps.5 No doubt he gained extensive experience in the management of battle casualties at this relatively early stage of his career and this was to serve him well during his service in the Great War. He became F.R.C.S. in 1901 and M.S. in 1903. He was clearly keen to serve his country in the military from a young age and in March 1907 he was serving with the London District Volunteers as a Lieutenant. Fortunately the National Archives (TNA) still hold his service record from WW16.

In 1909 he married at Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, Florence Kathleen Ogilvie (1888-1964) and they were to have two daughters and a son. Their son John (1912-1998) became an orthopaedic surgeon in Cambridge and like his father became President of the British Orthopaedic Association, the last President to serve for a two year term in 1974-75. This is the only incidence of a father and son holding this office in the history of the Association. John’s son eventually followed his father and grandfather into orthopaedic surgery. Their youngest child Kathleen Marcia married a farmer, Philip Le Cren in 1938 and they emigrated to New Zealand in 1947.

In 1910 he was a Captain with the 3rd London (City of London) Field Ambulance which became, by the start of the Great War, the 85th (3rd London) Field Ambulance. In 1914 he had apparently asked his mother to approach three of her wealthy friends and persuade them to donate their large cars, quite possibly Rolls-Royces, the chassis of which were lengthened so that they could be converted into ambulances which were then sent to the front with the 85th Fld. Amb.1. In a letter to the DDMS of 12 Corps at the War Office dated 7th January 1915 the Officer Commanding the 85th Field Ambulance recommended him for promotion to Major on the basis of his length of service and the distinguished nature of his work but a month later the request was turned down. This decision gives an interesting insight into the parsimonious approach taken by those responsible for promotion in that letters found later in the file find him still with the rank of Lieutenant.

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He arrived in France on 16th January 1915 with the 85th Field Ambulance6 as a Captain in the RAMC and served in the Ypres section of the front. He was not only a medical officer but served as the transport officer having a keen interest in the horses which were used for transport, an interest derived from his experience in the Boer War. The medal roll index has his date of entry to France as 22nd June 1915 but this is clearly wrong as in May of that year he was mentioned in despatches (LG 29200 p6008) by Field Marshall Sir John French for his part in the campaign in March in which the Battle of Neuve Chapelle was the principal event. The battle took place on the 10th, 11th and 12th March 1915. In his despatch the Field Marshall drew particular attention to the way in which the RAMC had established convalescent hospitals where the less seriously wounded or sick could be treated away from the front line yet near to the zone of operations so that they could quickly be returned to service. The principal convalescent hospital was at St Omer with smaller units at each Divisional HQ. This was something which clearly impressed HATF and it was a subject he was to return to just before the start of WW2 as we shall see.

The trench war dragged on in Flanders through mud and misery for the rest of the year and his unit was involved in the second Battle of Ypres and then the battle of Loos. During this time it became clear that there was no orthopaedic surgeon at the base hospital but a very skilled one in the front line with the 85th Field Ambulance. Apparently a transfer was decreed but the A.D.M.S. was not keen to lose the services of such a good officer at the front and HATF, happy to be with his Field Ambulance, did not press for transfer.

His record of active service has him embarking at Marseilles on 16th November 1915 with 85th Field Ambulance as a member of the British Salonika Force. They disembarked at Salonika on the 3rd December. The collapse of the Gallipoli campaign and
the accession of Bulgaria to the Central Powers (Germany and her allies) in September 1915 opened up the possibility of strengthening the Axis position in the Balkans by an attack on Serbia. By the time the Allies landed at Salonika in October in support of Serbia it was too late. The Central Powers had very considerably increased their strength in the Balkans and renewed channels of communication in support of their Turkish allies in Mesopotamia and Persia.

HATF served for the next 9 months with the Field Ambulance. There was a pause in the fighting during a cold winter and sickness amongst the troops was rife due to the poor quality and shortage of food made worse by German submarine activity in the Mediterranean. The Bulgarians now threatened at the Rupel Pass and the Field Ambulance moved to the Struma Valley. HATF’s skills as transport officer were once again used to cajole the mules and ambulance horses to carry out their tasks and indeed his horsemanship seems to have been almost as useful to the military as his surgical skill.

On the 16th September 1916 he was posted to 29th General Hospital Salonika to serve as assistant consultant surgeon to the BEF. This move occurred at a time of continuous fighting near Lake Doiran. A fellow surgeon, Julian Taylor, later described how at this time a change in surgical policy occurred when it was realised that prompt surgical excision of wounds meant that severe and often fatal infection could be avoided. This surgery often had to be carried out by junior surgeons in CasualtyClearing Stations near the front line and as Taylor, who was one of these young surgeons, wrote “the consulting surgeon (HATF) overworked himself keeping a constant check on the wounded from clearing stations to base hospitals. He also invited his forward surgeons regularly to the base to see for themselves what happened to their patients and to hear his comments. This kind of ever watchful sanity was the special quality of his work”.

He took a spell of leave in England in December before arriving back at his unit in March. In October 1917 he was mentioned in despatches by Lt. General Milne, C.in C. of the British Salonika Force (LG 30404 p12488) for distinguished service during the preceding six months, and in December he was promoted to T/Lt Colonel. By this time the Allied force amounted to half a million men, many of whom succumbed to the malaria epidemic sweeping the region. HATF was to be one of them.

In the New Year Honours in January 1918 he was awarded the O.S.O. (LG 30450 p20). Later that year it was noted that in the absence of the Senior Consulting Surgeon in the hospital he “supervised the whole of the surgical work of the Force”. However on the 20th August he reported “seriously ill” with malaria and delirium and a month later was evacuated to Malta. After a further period of treatment there he was moved to England on Boxing Day 1918 on the hospital ship ‘Grantully Castle’ and on arrival in England on 3rd January 1919 he was admitted to the King Edward V11 Hospital with neurasthenia as a consequence of malaria. He remained in hospital until 6th March, a few days before discharge being finally promoted to Major, although he had been serving as a T/Lt Colonel for much of his active service. After attendance before a medical board at Millbank he was passed fit for home duties and at the special request of Sir Robert Jones, perhaps the most distinguished orthopaedic surgeons of the era, he was posted to the Special Medical Surgical Hospital at Shepards Bush. On the 3rd June 1919 the London Gazette recorded the award of the O.B.E. “for valuable services rendered in connection with military operations in the Balkans”. At this time he was mentioned in despatches again by Lt General Milne for distinguished and gallant service from October 1918 to March 1919 (LG 31385 p7227).

He was demobilised in August 1919 but again he was to come up against military bureaucracy and although keen to join the Territorial Army he was advised that this was not possible until he resigned his commission in the RAMC and this was not possible at the time of his demobilisation as hostilities had not yet officially ended. Finally he resigned in July 1920 retaining the rank of Lt. Colonel and returned to his civilian practice in London. He was awarded the 1914-15 Star with emblem signifying his mention in despatches together with the British War Medal and Victory Medal. Later he would receive the 1939-45 War Medal & 1939-45 Star for his service in WW2.

In September 1938 as hostilities once again appeared on the horizon HATF wrote to an old friend, now Colonel in charge at Millbank Military Hospital, offering his services should they be needed. He was already Honorary Consulting Surgeon to the hospital but clearly realised that a more active role might be required. He raised the matter of treating the seriously injured in hospitals outside London in the more rural regions no doubt bearing in mind his experience with Convalescent Hospitals in France in 1915. He also stressed the importance of orthopaedic surgical expertise in the management of war injuries. He was asked to continue with his honorary appointment at Millbank and to continue to give advice to the Director General of Medical Services at the War Office. The Acting Director General also responded on the question of using hospitals outside London: “I am to add that we have a definite assurance from the Ministry of Health that the Army will be handed over any non-voluntary hospitals as going concerns which may be required for military purposes”. Thus the die was cast for the use of such places as the hospital at East Grinstead where Archibald Mclndoe was to carry out his ground breaking work on RAF pilots from the Battle of Britain.

In the second war he was consultant advisor on orthopaedics to the Ministry of Health and honorary consultant in orthopaedics to the Army. During the war he worked tirelessly travelling the country to organise the orthopaedic services for both the military and civilian populations setting up regional organisations upon which the NHS would in due course establish modern orthopaedic surgical units. In 1946 he was knighted for his services.

Julian Taylor, his fellow medical colleague from the First World War, in his tribute at the time of Fairbank’s 80th birthday described the qualities of the man. “For a man of his parts, of his invariable good sense and, let it be said, of his outstanding straightness, must by his qualities influence his neighbours. In the bad business of war when opportunities for lower standards of behaviour present themselves daily, such an example is as valuable as it is exceptional... How widely and deeply his personal
influence was felt in the 28th Division and later among the surgeons of Salonika, how in short, he was respected by everyone from General to Private, is the index of the value of his presence and in the writer’s opinion no higher tribute could be paid.” The present writer can do no more than endorse that sentiment.

Thomas Fairbank died in London on the 26th February 1961 age 84. His wife Florence died in 1964 in Cambridge where their son John practised as a consultant orthopaedic surgeon.

Sources:

Ancestry. GRO.
London Gazette (LG)
2 The History of the Royal Society of Medicine: Penelope Hunting; 2002; p359 et al. RSM Press Ltd.
4 Epsom College Register 1855-1954. Also 1855-1905.
6 TNA. WO 374/23417: Officers services WW1
7 Forces War Records.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


“My forty-five years experience of this problem leads me to emphasise the difficulty of what I would call the ‘diagnosis of prognosis.’” Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (1948).

When Sir Harold Arthur Thomas Fairbank (1876-1961) [Epsom College 1888-1893] published his monumental Atlas of General Affections of the Skeleton, in 1951, his reviewer wrote: “Sir Thomas Fairbank knows far more about bone disease than anyone else in the country. This not only because of his many years on the staff of an undergraduate teaching hospital and of the hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, but also because he is our orthopaedic father, whose interests we know and to whom we take all our problems and prizes.” Thomas Fairbank was the son of Dr Thomas Fairbank, a general practitioner in Windsor, and brother of Fleet Surgeon Christian Beverley Fairbank, R.N. [Epsom College 1888-1892]. He won an Entrance Scholarship to Charing Cross Hospital and, initially, intended pursuing a career in dentistry. If it had not been for the South African War, in which he served as a medical officer, he might well have become established as a West End surgeondentist. However, on his return from South Africa he was appointed Medical Superintendent at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. He took the F.R.C.S. (Eng.) in 1901, and proceeded M.S. (Lond.) in 1903.

Sir Thomas Fairbank was a brilliant diagnostician. On one occasion at Great Ormond Street, on hearing the peculiar and piercing scream of an infant at the other end of the out-patient hall he remarked to a colleague: “That sounds like the cry of infantile scurvy,” and so it was. While at Great Ormond Street, Fairbank decided to concentrate on orthopaedic surgery and he was later appointed orthopaedic surgeon at Charing Cross Hospital, the first London hospital to elect a surgeon for orthopaedic work only. He developed great powers of clinical observation and began to study congenital dislocation of the hip and the less commonly described skeletal disorders of children. In 1914, he visited the United States to study the development of orthopaedic surgery in Boston and New York.

At the outset of the First World War Fairbank joined the R.A.M.C. and was mobilised with the 85th Field Ambulance to Flanders and then Macedonia, before being appointed consulting surgeon to the British Salonika Force. While holding this appointment he travelled widely on bad roads and in bad weather to help many young surgeons in the Doiran and Struma areas, and was instrumental in organizing an invaluable training centre for post-operative and convalescent patients. In the Second World War such units were known as rehabilitation centres. He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1918 and appointed O.B.E. in 1919 for his services during the First World War.

On his return to London, Thomas Fairbank was asked to take charge of the newly established orthopaedic department at King’s College hospital, and he soon came to be recognised as one of the leading orthopaedic surgeons in Britain. In addition to King’s College Hospital he worked as a consulting surgeon at Great Ormond Street, Queen Alexandra’s Military Hospital, Millbank, and at the Lord Mayor Treloar’s Hospital, Alton. At King’s he reorganised the orthopaedic department to make it more suitable for patients and for teaching undergraduates. He inaugurated an out-patient fracture clinic, the first in London and the second
in the country and, during the Second World War he accepted the post of consultant in orthopaedic surgery to the Army and
the Emergency Medical Service. The University of Liverpool made him an honorary M.Ch. (Orthopaedics) in 1939, and his work
for the nation during the war was recognised by a knighthood accorded to him in 1946.

Sir Thomas Fairbank was a founder member of the British Orthopaedic Association and President in 1926-1927, when he chose:
“Some General Diseases of the Skeleton,” as the title of his presidential address. He was also a founder member, and later Vice-
President, of the Second Congress in Bologna and Rome – of the International Society of Orthopaedic Surgery. He was President
of the Orthopaedic Section of the Royal Society of Medicine and, in 1951 he was admitted to the honorary fellowship of that
society. In 1932 he was elected Vice-President of the Section of Orthopaedics at the Centenary Meeting of the British Medical
Association. In his obituary it was written: “His main interest was in orthopaedics, and there he was the master. His diagnosis
was a compound of logic with an unequalled knowledge of rare and obscure conditions; and his operating was like himself,
simple, direct, and extremely efficient. When he cut two bones to fit together they fitted like the work of a master craftsman.”

Farebrother, Lt.-Col. Harold William

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<td>1897</td>
<td>Lt.-Col R.A.M.C.</td>
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Epsom College: 1897-1899
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HAROLD WILLIAM FAREBROTHER (1883-1959). R.A.M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College
1897-1899] was the son of Dr W. A. Farebrother, of Hackney, London. He received his medical education at Charing Cross
Hospital, and went into general practice at Hackney Road, London. He joined the army in 1907, and during the First World War
served in the R.A.M.C.

Farrant, Rupert

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<td>1883</td>
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<td>T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18</td>
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1914-18, d. 1921

Farrant, Rupert (1883-1921).
Epsom College: 1897-1902
RUPERT FARRANT (1883-1921). M.C., F.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1897-19018 Jenks Memorial Scholarship]
was the son of Dr Samuel Farrant of Taunton, Somerset. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to the Westminster Hospital.
As a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918) he saw active service at Gallipoli, in Mesopotamia and France, where he gained the
Military Cross. During the First World War, and while still in France, he was elected to the honorary consultant staff at the
Westminster Hospital as Assistant Surgeon, and later as Consultant Surgeon. “He was especially interested in endocrinology
and pursued a great deal of research in the laboratories of University College on thyroid function in health and disease. His
assiduity in the collection and examination of thyroids from cases of disease of all kinds from asylums and hospitals was
remarkable. He formulated a theory of a correlated cycle of changes in the histological appearance and functional activity of
the thyroid gland under the influence of toxins, and was particularly interested in the relationship between thyroid deficiency
and insanity.” He was a Hunterian Lecturer at the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1921, he took his own life after suffering shell
shock and depression in World War One. He was 38 years old.
Faulkner, Percy Reginald

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1893
- **Regiment:** T/Capt. Roy. Fus.
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**
- **Researcher:**

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Faulkner, Percy Reginald, s. of W. B. Faulkner, tobacco merchant, of Wimbledon, b. 1879, C., XV, h. XI, l. 1896, company director, T/Capt. Roy. Fus., d. 1938

Fawsett, Cecil

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1909
- **Regiment:** Capt. R.F.C. 1914-18
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:** D.F.C.
- **Researcher:**

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Fawsett, Cecil, D.F.C., s. of dr. Frank Fawsett of Lewes, b. 1895, C., prefect, XV, h. XI, l. 1913, company director, Capt. R.F.C. 1914-18; R.S.A.C., Blythswood Square, Glasgow

Fazan, Eric Alfred Charles

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1900
- **Regiment:** T/Col. Royal Sussex Regt.
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:** M.C.*
- **Researcher:**


Eric Alfred Charles Fazan (EF) was the eldest child of Dr Charles H Fazan and his wife Fanny, formerly Slater, of Wadhurst, in Sussex. There were seven children in the family, four boys and three girls. EF was born on 24th March 1887 in Hannington, London before the family settled in Sussex, as were two of his brothers, Sidney who became a distinguished civil servant and Oscar who died in childhood. The rest of the children were born in Wadhurst and survived into adult life but Roy, born in 1891, was killed in France at the Battle of Aubers Ridge in 1915, a battle in which EF was also involved.

The three brothers Eric, Sidney and Roy all went to Epsom College and Eric was there from 1900–1905. He was registered there by his father who was then residing at Belmont, Wadhurst, Sussex. EF won an entrance scholarship to the College and entered Carr House in the autumn of 1900. At the end of his first year in the Upper Fourth form he came second in class and won the Junior Essay prize. He then moved into the Middle School and was placed 4th out of 17, his brother Sidney, who had also won an entrance scholarship, coming top of the form. EF passed his school certificate with 2 firsts in July of that year. In the summer of 1903 he was 3rd in form and then in the Michaelmas term that year he moved into the Matriculation form passing London Matric (2nd division) the following summer. In his final year on the Modern side in the Upper School he took and passed the Preliminary Scientific Examination in biology, later referred to as 1st MB. He became the Jenks Memorial Scholar that year and a school prefect. On the sports field he played for the 2nd XV and 2nd X14.

Leaving the College in 1905 he went to the Middlesex Hospital to study medicine. However he was clearly attracted to army life from an early age and in 1905 as he started his medical studies he applied for a commission and was appointed as a 2/Lt in the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment (LG 27832 p 5979). In 1907 he was promoted to Lt. in the 1st (Cinque Ports) Battalion which in 1908 became the 5th Cinque Ports Bn., part of the Territorial Service which replaced the volunteer service3 and to which he was transferred (LG 28186 p 8500).

In 1901 his father had enrolled him as an apprentice in the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers, the Master of which at the time was a Charles Frederick Slater who may have been a relative on his mother’s side. In 1908 when EF was still a medical student he was elected as a Freeman in the Livery Company and he appears to have maintained this interest in the City of London throughout his life.
In October 1914 at All Souls Church, Marylebone, he married Alide Catherine Helmsing, the daughter of a shipping agent of Hull. By now qualified as a doctor M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., he was a T/Captain and gave his address as The Castle, Dover where he was then serving. On 4th August 1914 the Territorials had been mobilised for war and on the following day the Cinque Ports Battalion had assembled at its headquarters at Hastings and by the evening had reached its war station at Dover Castle. His wife’s address was given as the Middlesex Hospital where no doubt he met her during his days there as a medical student.

In early October the battalion was moved to the Tower of London where it carried out guard and ceremonial duties both there and around London and then in February the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regt. (T.A.) was ‘selected for service on the Continent’ where it initially joined the 2nd Battalion RSR as part of the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division in France. EF, although a qualified doctor, was at that time a Captain and second in command of “A” Company. The medical officer to the regiment was Surgeon Capt. PM Waugh. Under the heading ‘attached to units other than medical units’ the Royal Army Medical Corps listed EF in the London Gazette as a T/Capt. from August 1915 (LG 29288 p 8970). It seems that at that time he served as an infantry soldier rather than a fully involved doctor in the RAMC.

EF and the regiment sailed from Southampton in the S.S. Pancras to Havre where they landed on the 19th February 1915. They entrained and moved to the Béthune area and joined the 2nd Brigade. On the 27th they moved into the front line for the first time and then moved in and out of the line for the next month or so. Early in May the 1st Division was ordered to capture the trenches and redoubts in the plain at the foot of the Aubers Ridge opposite Richebourg L’Avouée and on the evening of 8th May ‘A’ Company of the Cinque Ports Battalion, of which EF was second in command, together with the other 3 companies of the Battalion found themselves moving up to the front ready for action next day.

The attack was a disaster for the 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment and the 5th Cinque Ports Battalion. The preliminary bombardment failed in its objectives and murderous machine gun fire from the German trenches cut down the attackers as they charged across “No Man’s Land”. At 6pm the battalion was finally told to move back to their former billets at Gonnehem. Both the 2nd RSR and the Cinque Ports Battalion had each lost more than 200 men killed, wounded or missing that day.

After their devastating losses at Aubers Ridge what remained of the battalion gradually regrouped and after further spells at the front at Vermelles at the end of July was withdrawn from the line for a rest. From August 1915 it became the 5th Battalion Royal Sussex Regt. (Pioneers) in support of the 48th Division at Doullens, with whom they remained until the end of the war.

Much has been written on the disaster known as The Battle of Aubers Ridge and this will not be repeated here. Sufficient to say that both Capt. Eric Fazan and his brother Lt. Roy Fazan both played a gallant part in that battle in which Roy was killed. The full details of his death are described under his name on this website. EL was among the survivors and in due course in the New Year awards in 1916 received the Military Cross (LG 29438 p 578). At that same time Capt. EAC Fazan of the Royal Sussex Regt. (Territorials) was also Mentioned in Despatches (LG 29422 p 43).

It appears that after the disaster at Aubers Ridge his services as a medical officer were required by the RAMC in medical units in France and Flanders and his attachment to the Cinque Ports Battalion was ended for the rest of the war. In February 1918, while serving in the RAMC, he was awarded a second MC and in July the full citation was published (LG 30780 p7892): “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During very heavy fighting his aid post twice passed into the hands of the enemy. Although all communication with him by day was cut off for two days, he remained with his wounded through his hands. It was due to his determination that every wounded man and all the personnel of his aid post were safely removed”.

In July 1920 he was promoted to Major and in November was restored to the 5th Battalion (Cinque Ports) Territorials from the RAMC (LG 32138 p11598). He received the 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal with emblems recognising his mention in despatches and Bar to the Military Cross. In August 1921 he relinquished his commission (LG 32443 p6933) and returned to general practice as a doctor in Wadhurst, Sussex. However his military service did not end then and he maintained his connections with the Territorial Army Reserve. In 1930 he was promoted from Major in the 5th Cinque Ports Battalion to Lt Colonel (LG 33584 p 1313) and served as its Commanding Officer from 1930 until 1935. In 1935, on relinquishing that post, he became a Colonel in the RAMC (LG 34490 p5268).

His first wife died in January 1946 and in March 1947 he married Nancy Collier at Uckfield in Sussex. No records of children of the marriages have been found. He received the Territorial Decoration and was a Deputy Lieutenant of Sussex and a Justice of the Peace. He finally retired in 1953, having exceeded the age limit, with the rank of Colonel.

In his preface to Eric Fazan’s book on the history of the Cinque Ports and the battalion that bore the name, written in 1970 after Fazan’s death, Brigadier Robert Loder, CBE wrote of EF: “Although a busy country doctor by profession, he still found time, as the pages of this book will reveal, to devote a large part of his life to the service of his country.” It is a good description of this brave man’s life.

Sources:
Ancestry
Epsom College: 1900-1905
ERIC ALFRED CHARLES FAZAN (1887-1968). M.C. (Bar), T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), P., D.L. [Epsom College 1900-1905. prefect. Jenks Scholarship] was the son of Dr C. H. Fazan, of Wadhurst, Sussex, and brother of Sidney Herbert Fazan, C.M.G., C.B.E. [Epsom College 1901-1907], and Roy Fazan [Epsom College 1904-1909]. He received his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital, and went into general practice at Wadhurst, Sussex. In 1905, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Sussex Regiment and in 1915, went with the battalion to France as a combatant officer although he was by then a qualified doctor. He won the M.C. in 1915. He was then transferred to the R.A.M.C. and served with a field ambulance; and in 1917, won a bar to his M.C. and was mentioned in despatches. After the War, he worked for several years in Army psychiatric hospitals, but in 1949 he retired from the R.A.M.C. with the rank of Colonel. He was a Freeman of the City of London, a Liveryman of the Haberdasher’s Company, and Master of the Pewterer’s Company in 1956. He was made a Deputy Lieutenant of Sussex in 1937, and appointed J.P. for Sussex in 1945.


From Fazan’s book ‘Cinque Ports Battalion’
FAZAN Roy 2nd Lieut, 5 Bn B Company Royal Sussex Regiment
Died Sunday 9 May 1915

Roy was born in Wadhurst, Sussex on 19 August 1891, the youngest son of Dr Charles Herbert Fazan, a medical practitioner, and his wife Fanny nee Slater. The couple had married in 1886. By the time of Roy’s arrival, Charles and Fanny already had 3 boys: Eric 4, Sidney 3 and Oscar 9 months, all of whom had been born in Kensington which suggests the family moved to Sussex around 1891. Sadly Oscar died in 1894. Three daughters would arrive after Roy.

He was educated initially at Rose Hill School, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. On 15 September 1904 Roy joined his brothers at Carr House, Epsom College, having won an Open Entrance Scholarship to the value of £30. He was a competent student on the Classical side of the school. He attained his Lower School Certificate in 1905 with a first in Latin, and followed this with the Higher School certificate in 1907. He was also awarded a Senior Scholarship in 1907 worth £7 a term. In 1909 he passed the first exam in physics towards his medical degree which he would continue at Middlesex Hospital. Whilst at school he was made a Sub-Prefect and played in the Second rugby XV. Despite his achievements he was always overshadowed by his brother Sidney who was academically brilliant, winning a number of school prizes and a scholarship to Christ Church Oxford.

Roy was a keen member of Epsom College’s OTC and gained an A certificate.

In the 1911 census the family were living at Belmont, Wadhurst, Sussex, a thirteen roomed house. The house lies on the main route out of Wadhurst going towards the railway station, and is some way from the village centre. Eric and Sidney were not at home for the census. Roy was a medical student living with his parents and sisters Frances 18, Ena 16 and Doris 13. The family employed a cook and 2 maids.

Roy was keen on sports of all kinds, although he was not in any of Epsom College’s first teams. He played rugby for Tonbridge, Rosslyn Park and was one of the best forwards in the Middlesex hospital team. He was excellent at cricket and football. He was in the hospital cricket team, Vice-Captain of Wadhurst cricket club and Captain of Wadhurst Colts.

He also played an active part in hospital life and was one of the leading students in the medical school. He became the Secretary of the Students’ Concert committee and by his energy and interest succeeded in benefitting Middlesex Hospital’s Cancer charity by almost £200. For these services he was appointed a life Governor of the hospital and afterwards became a Liveryman of the Haberdashers company and a Freeman of the City of London. He was acting as a PM clerk and Inpatients clerk to Dr Wynter.

He was in the London University OTC, and joined the Artists Rifles. He was gazetted to the 5 Bn Royal Sussex Regiment shortly before the outbreak of war, being in the Special Reserve Section. He was called up for duty in the precautionary period before the outbreak of war and did his duty with his Battalion at Dover and at the Tower of London. Roy gave up his studies, despite being near to completion, and left for the front Feb 1915 where his corps was attached to 2nd Brigade 1st Division and did considerable trench work.

On 9 May 1915 his battalion attacked with the 2nd Bn Royal Sussex. At 05:00, British artillery bombarded the German lines between Neuve Chapelle and Festubert along the Aubers Ridge. At 05:30 men of the Royal Sussex Regiment went ‘over the top’. Roy, being second senior officer in the 5th was leading his men towards the German line near Richebourg, but was met by devastating heavy shrapnel and machine gun fire. By 11:30 the remains of the Regiment 160 men and one officer crawled back to their trenches. By 18:00 the remnant was marching back to Le Touret singing ‘Sussex by the Sea” and leaving behind 25 Wadhurst soldiers dead in the field. Among them was 2/Lt Roy Fazan, See fuller account from The Times

Eric Fazan also serving in the 5th Cinque Ports Bn wrote in his diary how he had great fears for his brother. “About mid day the CO told me poor Roy was killed. I could find out no details till later... All poor old Roy’s men say he was very cool. He sh..."

Roy Fazan is remembered on the Le Touret Memorial, panels 20 and 21, in Le Touret Cemetery, Richebourg-L’Avoue, on the south side of the Bethune-Armentieres Road, France.

The University of London Roll of Fallen stated that he was buried at Voilaines but either this is an error or his grave was lost. He is also remembered on the Wadhurst Village war memorial and in the memorial chapel in Wadhurst Church. See photos.

The Epsom College magazine, The Epsomian, in its tribute to Roy in June 1915 noted that he would long be remembered for his bright and cheery manner and unfailing good temper. A fellow officer remarked on his happy nature and humorous disposition.

Roy left £2984 18s 1d.

After his father’s death. his mother moved to “Boughton”, 1, Amherst Rd., Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, 

Sources
Census returns
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Stephen Cooper author of “The Final Whistle”
The Times
University of London Roll of Fallen

Afternote: Roy’s brother, Doctor Erie Fazan, was a very distinguished soldier during the First World War. He won the Military Cross for bravery on the field on more than one occasion. He was a founder member of the Wadhurst and Tidebrook Branch of
the Royal British Legion and was President for many years. He became the local doctor in Wadhurst and took great interest in all his patients but especially families of ex-servicemen who had their own particular problems. Many people remembered how he would distract them when they were sick as children by letting them listen to the chiming pocket watch which he always carried in his waistcoat pocket. His name is perpetuated in a warden-assisted block of flats for the elderly known as Fazan Court. I spoke to a lady in Wadhurst Church 10 Feb 2013 who remembered him as a much loved and respected family doctor.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


The Programme for the Toc H 21st Anniversary Festival 26-27 June 1936

So - first: my sources: the most complete record of the battle on 9 May 1915 can be found in the diary kept by Captain - later Colonel - Eric Fazan, who served throughout the War and was the one of the few officers in the Regiment to survive the Battle of Aubers; his diary is held by the Royal Sussex regiment.

http://www.wadhurst.info/whs/aubers/mjhtalk.htm

The German British front lines ran along a shallow ridge north east to south west from Aubers to Festubert. The ground is virtually flat but, the Germans held the higher ground. The plan of attack involved a pincer movement by parts of IV Corps: 7 Div and 8 Div were to attack from the north between Fromelles and Aubers; the Meerut Division and 1 Div from the south in the sector of immediate concern to us, according to Eric Fazan’s diary, 2nd Royal Sussex - a regular battalion - was on the west of the line with the Northamptons to their right; immediately behind was the 5th Royal Sussex - a volunteer Territorial battalion with the 60th Rifles to their right; further back the Loyal North Lancs and the 9th Liverpool Territorial Battalion. 5th Royal Sussex were recruited across the county and were well known in Wadhurst, having annual camps in the area, using the old Drill Hall - now Kingsley Court, and attending church parades through our High Street. Capt Eric Fazan commanded A Coy and his brother Roy was an officer in B Coy; “C” Coy was commanded by Capt. Courthope; many local men were volunteers in the battalion.

In February 1915, the officers of the 5th Bn were on duty at the Tower of London, guarding a German spy - Fritz Lodi: Capt Courthope back left, next Eric Fazan and then Roy Fazan.

I had great fears for Roy & Grant with B Coy. About mid-day the CO told me poor Roy was killed. I could find out no details till later.

Heard D Coy were as alright, but when they had been stopped from getting over the parapet. Our Brigade was now under orders to make another assault, but when they had found out how we could not hold it. The Coldstreams were in support. I met Major Egerton, of the Coldstreams, who asked after Paget. The Highlanders got back several of our fellows, but many had to lay out till dark. In the evening we were relieved by the London Territorial Division & were told to march back to LE TOURET where a staff officer would meet us & direct us to billets. We were directed first to LA COUTURE & then to PONT AVALETTE.

On the march back we found that the following officers had been wounded:- Major Langham, Lieut Napper, Dodd, Perry, Hobart. Missing:- Capt Grant, [Lieut -crossed out] Capt. Stewart-Jones, Lieuts. Haigh, Dennison and Powell - most of whom it was feared had been killed. We now think (13:5:15) that several of them were brought in wounded, but can get no details. 'C' Coy came out of the action the weakest. They only had one officer (Capt Courthope) left - and had about 16 killed, 40 wounded & 40 missing. B suffered next, and then A. All poor old Roy’s men say he was very cool & shouted “come on boys”. I have not yet heard what happened to Beale, my servant - who was also Captains’ orderly of ‘A’. Fortunately the Battn went into action very weak both in officers & men. They can only have had about 500 to 600 rifles. It subsequently transpired that our casualties were close to 200 - there being (fortunately) a large proportion of wounded. 'B' Coy had no officer left when they came out of action."

The idea of a lamp as the symbol of the Toc H movement was first conceived in May 1922 and introduced in December of that year. The Bronze Lamp of Maintenance is the symbol of a branch of Toc H. In shape it is modelled on the lamps in common household use in the first centuries of the Christian era, except that for the Sacred Monogram (Christos) often found upon their handles, the Double Cross, a part of the arms of the City of Ypres, is substituted.

The Lamp of the Wadhurst Branch (founded in 1933) was donated by the Fazan Family with the dedication:

In memory of Roy Fazan, 2nd. Lt. Aubers 9.5.1915; and of his Comrades in the 5th (Cinque Ports) Bttn, The Royal Sussex Regiment.

It was first lit, together with other lamps by the Toc H Patron, The Prince of Wales (Later Edward VIII), in a special ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall on 9 December 1933.
Roy Fazan

2nd Lt Roy Fazan
Killed in action 9 May 1915

The Fazans’ home, Belmont, Wadhurst, Sussex

©Liz Manterfield 10 Feb 2013
In February 1915, the officers of the 5th Bn were on duty at the Tower of London, guarding a German spy - Fritz Lodi: Capt Courthope back left, next Eric Fazan and then Roy Fazan.

Fenner, Lt.-Cdr. Alfred Athelstan Lennox

Birth Year: 1886 Entered Epsom College: 1897 Regiment: Lt.-Cdr. R.N. Lost at sea in a collision of submarines, 1918

Died 31/01/18 aged 31 Unit HM Sub K4, RN Buried Portsmouth, Hampshire Reference: P28

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Alfred was born on 7 April 1886 (GRO Ref:June 1886 Erpingham 4b 68) at Cromer, Norfolk, the son of Dr Robert Nathaniel Fenner and Edith Marion nee Carter his wife. His parents had married in the church of the Ascension in Lewisham in 1885. In the 1891 census the family was living at Norwich Rd, Cromer. Alfred’s father was a 31 year old surgeon, his mother was 30. Four year old Alfred had a brother Cyril Frederick Hamilton aged 3. Alfred’s aunt Ada Fenner, a district nurse was staying with the family, a surgeon and governess were boarding with them and they employed a cook and groom,
Tragedy struck in 1893 when Alfred’s mother died at Cromer giving birth to his sister Edith Marion Fenner on 3 April 1893. His father married Ellen Maude Russell on 25 June 1895 at Farningham, Kent but this was an unhappy arrangement. Dr Fenner filed for divorce in 1899 on the grounds of her adultery. The outcome of his petition is not clear because she was listed as his wife on the 1901 census and described as such in her probate record in 1914. Dr Fenner married for a third time.

Meanwhile Alfred’s father had registered him for Epsom College and he entered the Lower III form in the Lower School on 4 May 1897. He came 17th out of 23 boys in his form in the summer term. His stay at the school was brief as he left at Easter 1898.

In the 1901 census the family had moved to 22 Claremont Rd, Surbiton. Robert was 41, his second wife Ellen, whom he had divorced, was 33. Alfred was a 15 year old naval officer cadet and Cyril was 13. The family employed a cook and a housemaid. Seven year old Edith was staying with her paternal grandparents in Greenwich.

In the 1911 census Alfred’s father and sister were living at 37 Connaught St, London W, with 2 servants. Alfred became a Royal Navy sub-mariner and achieved first class certificates in pilotage, gunnery and torpedoes. He served on the submarine K4 during the war years. K4 was one of a class 18 steam driven submarines that were large vessels and difficult to manoeuvre. They were based at HM Submarine Depot at Portsmouth. K4 was attached to the 13th Submarine Flotilla and was lost on 31 January 1918 during the night time fleet exercises later known as the Battle of May Island. That night eight vessels were damaged or lost in a series of 5 collisions in the Firth of Forth near Fife. While attempting to avoid a collision with K3, K4 collided with K6 and K7 and sank. She was lost with all hands (105 souls).

Probate for Alfred’s estate was granted to his father on 9 May 1918 and his effects were valued at £1487 0s 5d.

Alfred’s father’s father suffered a triple loss of his children. Alfred’s brother Cyril served in 6 Company 2 Bn Scots Guards and was killed on the Somme between Morville and Les Boeufs on 24 Sept 1916. Edith died in 1917.

The crew of K4 is remembered in St Margaret Pattens Church London, and there is a memorial at Anstruther Harbour Memorial Fife. Both the Fenner boys are remembered on the Cromer War memorial.

Sources
Census returns 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Divorce records
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Navy List
Probate Records

Ferguson, Alexander Lundi Hunter

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Rank: Lt

Died 22/07/16 aged 21
Buried Thiepval Memorial, France
Reference: Pier15B 15C

Ferguson, Lt.-Cdr. Alfred Athelstan Lennox, R.N., s. of dr. Robert Fenner of Cromer, b. 1886, L.S. and W., l. 1898, lost at sea in a collision of submarines 1918

Elizabeth Manterfield

FERGUSON Alexander Lundi Hunter Lieut, 8bn Gordon Highlanders attached 11 Bn
Killed: 22 or 23 Jul 1916

Alexander was born at 161 Lozells Road, Aston Manor Warwickshire on 20 November 1894 (GRO Ref: Dec 94 Aston 6d 432) the son of Major John E Ferguson and his wife Grace nee Hunter. His father had been born in Scotland and served as a major in the Indian Medical Service. Alexander’s maternal grandfather was Col Hunter CB CSI. His mother had been born in India.

In 1901 the family was living in a property called “St Johns” on the sea front at Pevensey. John was 48 and serving as a major in the army and was a general practitioner of medicine. Grace was 31. They had four children: John F aged 9, Victoria G 7, Alex LH 6, and Arthur HP 4 and employed 1 servant.

Alexander was a pupil initially at Aberdeen Grammar School. By 1904 Major Ferguson’s health had deteriorated after 22 years in medical practice in the army and in Birmingham and he died. The family had grown to five children and had to manage on
limited means. They applied for a Foundation Scholarship at Epsom College for Alexander which after providing a certificate proving his father’s ill health was successful. His mother of 21 Desswood Place, Aberdeen registered him and he entered the first form of the Lower School’s “A” House on 21 September 1905.

He was an able student coming 3rd out of the 12 boys in the First form in the end of year assessment in 1906. He skipped a year to the Lower 3rd form where he came 3rd out of 23 boys. He continued to shine after moving Granville House in the Senior School in 1908. He again skipped a year moving from the Middle Fourth form to the Shell form in September 1909. This was less successful and he ended the year in bottom place of the 26 boys. He took the year again and improved his position to sixth place. He passed the Lower School Certificate in 1911 gaining first class passes in Latin, arithmetic and additional maths. He had a place in the Gymnastics squad. He had been a member of the OTC for three years. He also had a second class pass in musketry.

He left in July 1912 having gained his School Certificate and matriculated in the Second Division London University. He entered the Faculty of Arts at Aberdeen University in 1912 with a view of competing for a commission in the Indian Police and achieved good marks in the Police entrance exam. His plans were interrupted by the outbreak of war. He applied for a commission in the Army in August 1914, but did not immediately receive a reply so in September 1914 tried to enlist in 3 Gordon Highlanders at Castlehill Barracks but his military experience, 3 years in Cadet Corps at school, was not considered to be sufficient as he had not been in the Senior Division. He had been passed as efficient in 1911 and 1912, and had achieved a 2nd class standard in musketry but had not passed his Certificate A. Undaunted, he enlisted in the Public School Battalion (PSB) and remained there until he got his commission, without a further application. The army would later have difficulty finding a record of his service in the PSB.

He attested at St James Street on 26 September 1914 and was living at Birmingham at the time. He was 5ft 7ins tall, aged 19yrs 10months and was still a student. He weighed 11stone 7lbs and had a 34½ins chest with a 2inch expansion, He had a fair complexion with brown eyes and light brown hair. He was a member of the Church of Scotland. Initially he expressed a preference for the Army Service Corps but changed this to the Infantry. He was found fit and discharged to a commission in the 8 (Service) Gordon Highlanders on 4 Oct 1914.

He served as Musketry officer in Feb 1915 and also acted as adjutant for 11 bn Gordon Highlanders for a couple of months. He was promoted to Lieutenant in Mar 1915. On 1 October 1915 he went to France to join the 8th Gordon Highlanders. He was severely wounded in his left eye by a sniper’s bullet on 26 Nov 1915, several pieces of lead penetrating his eyeball. His eye had to be removed on 4 Dec. He was moved from 7 Stationary Hospital at Boulogne on the ship Brighton for Dover arriving 8 Dec 1915. He made a good recovery in the Hall Walker Hospital for Officers in Regents Park, London. His general condition was good and his eye socket clean and almost ready for an artificial eye. He was due to return to his regiment on 11 Jan 1916. He bore his injury with his characteristic cheerfulness. He wrote to a friend at the College: “I have got a jolly good glass one in its place”. He was also back on his motor bike ten days after having his eye removed.

He returned to the front in February 1916 and was wounded again at Ploegsteert, in April, being admitted to 1 Red Cross Hospital Le Touquet with a grenade wound to both legs and an arm. His injuries were slight although the injury to his right knee would be permanent. He progressed favourably and was discharged to duty on 23 May 1916. He soon returned to the trenches though his Colonel wished to keep him in the Reserve Battalion. He was also offered a cadetship in the Indian Army which would have meant comparative safety and fine prospects but he felt that his duty lay in the west.

He was missing in action on 24 July 1916. “At school he was full of life and as hard as nails, afraid of no danger, keen on outdoor sport and games, a good comrade, with all the makings of a fine soldier. Everyone who knew him will remember his unfailing cheerfulness. A soldier once called him “the officer who is always smiling”. As he lived, he died. He was shot through the heart while gallantly leading his men into action on 23 July last aged 21.” SRB Epsomian.

He was awarded the 1915 Star as well as the British and Victory medals. His mother applied for these on 10 December 1921. She was still living at Desswood Place, Aberdeen. Probate was granted to his mother Grace Alma Hunter or Ferguson, widow on 25 Oct. She had some difficulty in getting the full amount of money owing after his death because no evidence of his service in the PSB could be found, and having had two sons killed and one lamed by the war, she had become destitute. He is remembered on Thiepval Pier and Face 21.

He made a good recovery in the Hall Walker Hospital for Officers in Regents Park, London. His general condition was good and his eye socket clean and almost ready for an artificial eye. He was due to return to his regiment on 11 Jan 1916. He bore his injury with his characteristic cheerfulness. He wrote to a friend at the College: “I have got a jolly good glass one in its place”. He was also back on his motor bike ten days after having his eye removed.

Sources
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s and Foundation application
Epsom College Yellow Book
The Epsomian
India Office Archives IOR/L/MIL/9/301/93 Queen’s/King’s India Cadetships: register of candidates
Medal Index card
Mother’s letters to War Office

To check
IOR/L/MIL/9/301/93

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Ferguson, Alexander Lundi Hunter, s. of Major Frederick Ferguson, I.M.S., b. 1894, L.S. and G., l. 1912, T/Lt. Gordon Highlanders, killed in action 1916

Ferguson, Archibald

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

ffolliott, Charles Russell Hastings

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<td>1906</td>
<td>T/Lt. Lincs Regt. att. R.F.C., Killed in action 1917</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Lt</td>
<td>18 Sqn RFC</td>
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Died 10/03/18 aged 25 Buried Rue-Petillon Mil Cem, France Reference: P1.RG.G25
Charles was born on 6 May 1892, the son of Charles Nicholas ffolliott and his wife Ethel nee Treliving. His father had been a medical student when he and Edith married at the Wesleyan Chapel, Warwick Gardens, Kensington on 2 August 1890. His mother petitioned for divorce in 1896 on the grounds of her husband's repeated adultery and violence towards her. The decree was granted and she married Harry Dawson Barber in Lewisham 1899. (GRO ref: June 1899 Lewisham 1d 19718) Charles senior moved to Dartmouth where he became a councillor. He had to pay alimony weekly towards the upkeep of his son.

In the 1901 census eight year old Charles is living with mother and step father in Lewisham. Charles’ step-father registered him for Epsom College and he entered the Lower III form in “A” House in the Lower School on 19 January 1906. He proceeded to Propert House in the Upper School. He was an average pupil academically usually finishing as a middle ranking student in his year. In 1907 he won the Carr divinity prize. He left in 1909.

In the 1911 census he was studying metallurgy and living with his mother at 86, Burnt Ash Road, Lee in south east London.

He went to South Africa where he worked as a metallurgist. He joined the Rhodesian Regiment as Private 318 and reached the rank of sergeant. He went through the German South West African campaign as a Sergeant and was serving in the Rhodesian Rifles Platoon in Botha’s Army from 23 Oct 1914 until 3 August 1915 when the unit was demobilised.

He left Durban South Africa on the ship Kenilworth Castle and arrived in UK on 25 August 1915. When he attested in 18 Sept 1915 at Sheeremess, Essex he gave his address as 86, Burnt Ash Road, Lee, SE London. His next of kin was his mother Ethel Barber of this address. He joined the Kings Royal Rifle Corps as R15693 at Queenborough, Kent. He was discharged on 17 December that year on being approached for a commission to 2nd Lieut.

He was sent to Sutton Veny in Wiltshire for a medical where he was found fit. He was 5ft 7ins tall and weighed 143lbs. He had a good physical development with a 31in chest with a 6in expansion. He had 6/6 vision in both eyes and 8 vaccination marks on his left arm. He also had a tattooed heart and clasped arms on his right forearm. On his Commission papers the headmaster of Epsom College signed to confirm that he was well educated. He worked as a chemist.

At first he held a temporary commission as 2nd Lieutenant, with effect from 18 Dec 1915. He was ordered to join the 10th Service Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment at Grimsby, and was wounded several times whilst serving with them.

In the Spring of 1916 he married Mary Emily C Murray (GRO Ref: Jun 1916 Gateshead 10a 1600.) He transferred to the general list of the Royal Flying Corps. He trained at Reading w/e 4 April 1917, with a period in the flying school w/e 13 August. He served with the Expeditionary Force in 18 Sqn as an observer from 23 September 1917, and was then posted to Biggin Hill on 22 Jan 1918.

In February 1918 he had flown as Observer in the DH4 piloted by Canadian ace Alfred Clayburn Atkey when Atkey shot down two of the thirty eight enemy aircraft credited to him.

He went missing when 18 Squadron took part in an air raid on Stuttgart. Charles was the observer and Lieut JN McKim was the pilot. All the aeroplanes except their’s returned. The official report stated that their machine was seen to have gone down under control apparently with engine trouble south east of Oberkirch and it was expected that the two officers had been taken prisoner. A letter from the Squadron Commander said that a message had now been dropped by a German aeroplane which read “Lt JNB McKim and Lt CRH ffolliott were shot down near Allennes and both were killed.” This was confirmed later by a letter from the British Red Cross Society Copenhagen. According to a later letter dated 18 Oct 1919 he “fell down fatally at Allennes and was buried in the Soldiers’ Cemetery Herrin, grave 213”. Commonwealth War Graves Commission records that he is buried in Rue Petillon Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix, near Armentieres, grave I G 25 so his remains were probably moved as part of the post war exercise to consolidate the graves.

He is remembered on the war memorial at St Saviour’s church, Lewisham High Street and on the St Saviour’s Church Plaque, Dartmouth as C. R. Ffolliott

On 15 April 1918 the London Gazette announced that he had been awarded the Croix de Guerre posthumously. He had participated in a special flying mission into German territory when he was attacked by sixteen hostile aircraft. Although his machine was riddled with bullets he succeeded in returning to the Allied lines with valuable photographic information. His effects returned from the front consisted of a leather wallet, 3 amulets (identity tags), a lock of hair, visiting cards and 10 francs.

He did not leave a will and his widow, Mary, living at Florence Villa, 53, Courthill Rd, Lewisham, SE13 was granted the right to administer his estate, valued at £221 14s on 5 March 1919.

In summer 1918, Charles’s widow gave birth to a daughter Mary HH ffolliott (GRO ref: June 1918 Lewisham 1d 1501). His daughter must have enquired about her father in Feb 1983 as there is a copy of a letter to Mrs M H Hubbard of 17 Glenhouse Road, Eltham on his TNA file stating that “Your father’s record contains no evidence of your birth” and she needed to establish kinship. Supporting correspondence has not survived.

On 14 Jan 1920 his widow applied for the 1915 star (issued by South Africa), the British and Victory medals that were due to him.

He is remembered on the Lewisham War Memorial and in Dartmouth St Saviour’s church.

Sources:

CWGC
Census returns-1901,1911

Elizabeth Manterfield

FFOLLIOTT Charles Russell Hastings, Lieut. Lincolnshire Regiment attached to 18 Sqn Royal Flying Corps

Died: 10 March 1918

ffrench, Desmond Acheson

- Birth Year: 1907
- Entered Epsom College: 1907
- Regiment: Served in the ranks in WW1
- House: HMM? □
- Rank
- Decorations:
- Researcher:

ffrench, Desmond Acheson, s. of dr. D. M. ffrench of Debenham, b. 1895, L.S. and G., l. 1913, served in the ranks in World War I, sometime resident in S. Africa

Findlay, Kenneth Norman

- Birth Year: 1895
- Entered Epsom College: 1905
- Regiment: T/Lt. R.A. 1915-18
- House: HMM? □
- Rank
- Decorations:
- Researcher:

Findlay, Kenneth Norman, s. of dr. David Findlay of Wimbledon, b. 1895, L.S. and C., l. 1908, T/Lt. R.A. 1915-18

Firth, Ivan Eustace

- Birth Year: 1891
- Entered Epsom College: 1905
- Regiment: T./Maj. R.A. 1914-18
- House: HMM? □
- Rank
- Decorations:
- Researcher:

Firth, Ivan Eustace, s. of dr. Charles Firth of Gravesend, b. 1891, P., l. 1906, playwright and builder's merchant, T/Maj. R.A. 1914-18

Fisher, Edward Fow

- Birth Year: 1878
- Entered Epsom College: 1889
- Regiment: T/Surg. R.N., desp
- House: HMM? □
- Rank
- Decorations:
- Researcher:


Fisher, Surg. Cdr. Hubert Holdrich

- Decorations:

Fisher, Surgeon Commander Hubert Holdrich (1898-?).


Fleming, James Ronald

Fleming, James Ronald (1879-1926).

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Fleming, Maj.-Gen. George

Major-General George Fleming, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.
1879 – 1957

George Fleming (GF) was born in London in 3rd November 1879 the son of Colonel George Fleming C.B., LL.D. F.R.C.V.S. (1833-1901) Principal Veterinary Surgeon to the British Army1 in 1883. The Colonel’s first wife Alice had died in 1878 and shortly afterwards he married a widow, Susan Dodd (1844-1899) née Solomon. His wife had two children from her first marriage and she and Colonel George Fleming were to have two sons of whom GF was the elder (GRO 3a 157 Hendon). Noel (1888-1953) his younger brother was commissioned in the 4th Volunteer Battalion of the Devonshire Regt in 1907 and when George received his commission in 1901 Noel was named as his next of kin. Noel served in WW1 as a Captain but retired from the army in 1918 on grounds of ill health as a result of his war time experiences. There were also two daughters in the family of whom one died in infancy.

His father, then living at Combe Martin in Devon, sent George to the College in 1889. He was placed in Propert House but his early school career seems to have been interrupted presumably by illness and he was marked as absent in July 1894. However in the following year now in the Upper Vf he was placed 13th of 23 boys in the form and won the Carr Divinity prize. In 1896 now in the middle school he took the Oxford local examination and passed Division II coming 3rd in the form order that year. In 1897 he was first in class and won the Form prize and Junior Watts prize. In his final year in the matriculation form he took the College of Preceptors examination passing Class II in the first division and was made a sub prefect.

GF left the College in 1898 and went up to University College Hospital London2. However he appears to have given up his medical studies and in January 1900 joined the 27th Coy. 7th Battalion, Devon Imperial Yeomanry as a private soldier No. 6495.

In February 1900 he went to serve in South Africa in the 2nd Boer War where he remained until July 1901. He received the 1901 clasp to the South Africa Medal with three further clasps, Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Diamond Hill. On 24 July 1901 he was granted a commission as 2/Lt in The Prince Albert Regiment (Somerset Light Infantry - SLI: LG 27336 p4841). The SLI had served with distinction in the Boer War gaining two new Battle Honours for the ‘Relief of Ladysmith’ and ‘South Africa 1899-1902’11 which may well have attracted GF when he applied for a commission. He remained on home posting until 3rd January 1902 during which time he passed an instruction course in musketry at the Staff College at Hythe. On the 4th January he went to the East Indies and served in India with the 1st Battalion SLI6, which had been stationed there for some years, serving with them until they returned to England in November 190811. In 1905 whilst in India he was promoted to Lieutenant4.

In March 1912 he became Adjutant of the 3rd Battalion SLI Special Reserve (LG 28590 p1919) a position he held until 1915 when he was promoted to Captain (LG28823 p3295). He remained with the 3rd Battalion after the outbreak of war when according to his obituary in The Times “his duties became very onerous”6. On the 1st June 1915 he went to France5 and served again as a T/Major with his old comrades in the 1st Battalion SLI on the Ypres salient between July and August 1915, taking part in the Battle of Pilckem7. On 6th July 1915 the 1st Rifle Brigade and 1st SLI attacked the enemy at Pilkem east of the Yser Canal and although the attack was successful the attackers suffered heavy losses from German shelling and counter attacks8.

He was promoted to Major in October and for his distinguished service as a regimental officer in this campaign was awarded the DSO4 in the New Year Honours in January 1916 (EG 12894 p93). He was also mentioned in despatches by Field Marshall Sir John French for distinguished service (LG29422 p36).

In December 2015 he went to Gallipoli and joined the 13th Division (Madras)7 taking part in the evacuation from Cape Helles in January 1916 and then accompanied the 13th (Western) Division to Mesopotamia where he served as Staff Captain at HQ of the 39th Infantry Brigade for a short while. In October 1915 General Townsend had advanced on Baghdad but had been forced to pull back to Kut-al-Amara where he had been besieged and in April 2016 he had been forced to surrender. Lt. General Sir Stanley Maude K.C.B., D.S.O., the G.O.C. Mesopotamia now in command, in due course advanced up the Tigris and recaptured Kut in December 1916. During this action GF was selected to take command of the 7th Gloucesters in the 39th Brigade5 when the previous commanding officer, Lt/Col. Younghusband, was killed in action on 21st April in heavy fighting at Beit Aressa. On 25th April the war diary records that Capt. G Fleming D.S.O. vacated his appointment at HQ 39th Brigade and took command of the battalion (TNA WO 95/5158) with the rank of A/Lt. Colonel. They fought their way north against the Turks through Orah and Wadi and by October were 3 miles above Amara on the left bank of the Tigris. By early December they were SW of Kut involved in heavy fighting in which they took many casualties. Eventually Kut was re-taken GF being mentioned...
in despatches by General Maude (LG 30233 p8332).
The formation of the 39th Brigade is described briefly in the War Diary of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (WO 95/5159) in the form of a sketch. It was formed of 3 infantry battalions, 7th Gloucesters, 7th Staffordshires and the 9th Warwickshires together with a Machine Gun Corps detachment and 55 Field Ambulance. Over time GF was to command all three infantry battalions.

His leadership skills as a regimental officer were clearly well recognised by his senior commanders and in January 1917 he took command of the 7th N. Staffordshire when its commanding officer, Lt Col. Ley, was severely wounded in the neck and shoulder. This occurred at 6.30 am on the 15th January and at 2pm “Lt. Colonel Fleming, DSO (Somerset Light Infantry) assumed command”. He was replaced at the 7th Gloucesters by Lt.Col. RP Jordon C.M.G., D.S.O. The battalion was under heavy fire from the Turks and was preparing for a major assault on the west bank of the Hai river. The assault was launched on the 25th January and the battalion took heavy casualties with 3 officers killed, Lt Col Fleming and 3 other officers wounded, with 29 other ranks (OR’s) killed, 163 wounded and 72 missing. It appears that a Lt.Col. Ratcliffe took command but he was wounded a month later on 25th February. Fortunately by then Lt. Col. Ley had recovered from his wounds and resumed command. The 7th Staffordshires were now on the left bank of the Tigris opposite Bigalaih. GF had also recovered from wounds received at Hai and now assumed command of the 9th Royal Warwickshire on 20th February holding the rank of T/Lt/Colonel (LG 30118 p5620). In July of that year he was awarded a Russian decoration, the Order of St Stanislas, 3rd Class (with Swords). The awards were announced from the General HQ of the India Expeditionary Force “D” for distinguished services rendered during the course of the campaign through Mesopotamia to Baghdad and beyond (LG 30070 p4726). The award he received was one of the last times the decoration was given before the Russian Revolution led to its suspension although it was to be re-instated later. He was again MID in August (LG 30233 p8332) whilst in command of the Royal Warwickshire.

In September 1917 a number of awards were made to the 9th (S) Royal Warwickshire Rgt. In recognition of their involvement in the heavy fighting during the advance on Baghdad. Major (Alt Col) G Fleming (Somerset Li Attd.) became Brevet Lt Col. and his adjutant, Capt R.E. Phillips received the VC. Major (Alt Col) E Henderson who had taken over the 7th N Staffordshires (TNA3a) received a posthumous VC.

In December it was announced that GF was to be TLt Col. whilst commanding the Royal Warwickshire, back dated to February 1917 (LG 30430 p13168). By October 1917 the regiment was on the banks of the R Tigris and soon moved into the front line which extended from the Dialah river to the Tahwila Canal (TNA3a). GF remained in command until May 1918 when he went on leave to India. In September 1918 the regiment again became involved in heavy fighting around Dyyga and Binagady and he returned from leave to resume command where he remained until the end of the war taking it through Transcarpia and the Caucasus to Constantinople.

In February 1919 he was mentioned in despatches for exceptional service for a third time by the new GOC Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, Lt-General Marshall, in his despatch to the C.I.G.S. India (LG 31195 p2590). General Maude had died suddenly in November 1917 in Baghdad.

He relinquished his temporary rank when he finished commanding the 9th Service Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in September 1919 (LG 31635 p13653). On 15th October 1919 he married a French lady, Marie Simone Gresy (1886-1980) in Paris and they were to have one son, Yann, who was born in Paris on 25th December 1920. Yann later emigrated to New Zealand and became a farmer from time to time travelling back to England to stay with his parents, in the 1950’s at their home Lodge Farm, Woodbridge in Suffolk. In 1974 he became a naturalised citizen of New Zealand. He died in Rangiora NZ in 2003, his wife, with whom he had two daughters and a son, having pre-deceased him in 1976.

In 1919 GF re-joined his own regiment commanding the Somerset Light Infantry depot at Taunton for some years and then in 1926 he was promoted to Lt/Col. in command of the 1st Welch Regiment where he served until 1930 (LG 33229 p1814). At the completion of this appointment he was promoted to Colonel with the temporary rank of Brigadier and sent to take command of the Shanghai area of the China Station (LG 3364 p7501) at a critical time when China was threatened by Japanese aggression6. Here by chance he may well have met an OE colleague from the past whose name appears just below EF in the same edition of the LG, Lt.-Col. R. B. Cousens, D.S.O., R.A., A.A. & Q.M.G., i/c. of Admin., who went to the China Station at that time. They had both entered Epsom College in the same year, 1893.

In the King’s Birthday Honours in June 1932, whilst still Commander Shanghai, he became C.B.E. (LG 33831 p3574) and the following year was promoted to Major-General (LG3397 p5730) returning home from China at the end of 1933. However his service was not yet over and in October 1934 he went off to India as District Commander of the Madras District Southern Command (LG 34112 p7929). In the New Year Honours list 1935 he was appointed C.B. (LG 34119 p3). He remained in India until October 1938 when he relinquished his command (LG 34574 p7438) and that same month finally retired.6

George Fleming was a fighting soldier who spent almost all his career in command of troops, his time spent on staff work amounting to only a few months.6 He won his DSO as a young Captain for gallantry in the field, was mentioned in despatches several times and awarded the Order of St Stanislas by Russian allies. His considerable organisational ability was employed later at a senior level towards the end of his career in China and India. He died at Melton, Suffolk on 27 August 1957 age 77 (GRO Deben 4b 618). His wife died in Ipswich in 1980 age 94.

A curious postscript to this short biography was noted recently when what was described as a Chinese libation cup carved from a rhinoceros horn in the 18th/19th century was advertised for sale in a guide to antiques in Australasia9. It was apparently inherited from the estate of EF. It was thought that he might have inherited it from his father “George Fleming (1833 -1901), an English army doctor, who spent much time in China — “. Colonel George Fleming wrote a book on his travels in China in the mid. 19th century10 and it seems likely that the cup was sold as part of the estate of the General’s late son, Yann, in New Zealand.

Sources:
A Miniature Imperial Order of St. Stanislas with Swords

Folker, Henry Herbert
Birth Year: 
Entered Epsom College: 1876
House: 
Decorations: O.B.E.

A wine cup said to have belonged to Major General George Fleming C.B., CBE, DSO
Foot, Douglas Eric

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<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>2Lt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>House</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>13/10/15, aged 18</td>
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<td>Loos Brit. Cem, France</td>
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**FOOT**

Douglas Eric 2nd Lt. 8th Bn Princess Charlotte of Wales Royal Berkshire Regiment, 18 Div.

Died: 13 October 1915

Eric, as he was known, was born in Pulborough, West Sussex on 6 December 1896, (GRO Ref: Mar 1897 Thakeham 2b 343), the second son of Dr Ernest Foot and his wife Maud nee Cooper. His parents had married in 1894. (GRO Ref: June 1894 Birkenhead 8a 729)

In 1901 the family was living in the 12 roomed Church House in Pulborough where 48 year old Ernest was a medical practitioner. He had been born in Bigbury in Devon. His wife Maud was 34. Eric aged 4 had two siblings: Ernest who was 5 and Enid 3. Herbert Reeve a 25 year old medical assistant was living with the family and they employed a governess, a cook and a housemaid.

Eric followed his brother Ernest to Epsom College on 3 May 1907, starting in the Lower School, Holman House, and progressing to Carr House in the Upper School. He was recorded there in the 1911 census. He had an undistinguished career academically, usually being low down in his year. He was keen on rugby and played in the first XV. He was also a prefect. He had been a Lance Corporal in the Epsom College OTC, Junior Division for 4 years and one term. He was assessed as “efficient” in 1912, 1913 and 1914. He passed as first class in musketry, and was good at Morse code and semaphore. He did not possess a certificate A, but had good efficiency. He attended OTC camp in 1913. He left Epsom College on 18 Dec 1914.

Eric went to France on 1 Oct 1915. Eric joined 8th Battalion Royal Berkshires from the 9th Bn on 5 Oct 1915 at Noeux-les-Mines along with three other 2nd Lieuts.

The 8th Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment was a Service (or Kitchener) battalion. When it arrived in France it was allocated to the 1st (Regular) Division and placed in the same Brigade as seasoned Scottish regiments. On the 25th September 1915 the Division had assaulted Hulloch, near Loos, an offensive that was considered to have been successful. At 1900 on 5 October Eric left Neux-les-Mines for the trenches.

The war diary for October 1915 records:

12 October: The battalion moved into the old German third line (captured on the 25 September). At 1130pm the battalion assumed its battle position with the Black Watch on the left and the London Scottish on the right. The objective was the...
German trench on the east side of the main road, not more than 200 yards from our own trench. Chlorine gas was released at intervals from 1.00pm to 1.50pm. Our men went forward under smoke at 1.50pm and 2.00pm. It was reported at 2.10pm that our first lines had attained the road but were being enfiladed. Two of our support platoons were ordered forward and were joined by the Machine Gun Officer and his team. They only got 75 yards from our parapet when they came under machine gun fire and were cut down. The remainder of the battalion went over at 2.20pm but were no more successful than the others in reaching their objective.

During the night those men who had escaped crawled back to our front line trench.

Battalion Casualties 4th to 22nd October:
Officer Killed 4, Wounded 4, Missing and wounded 1, Missing 2.
ORs Killed 18, wounded 59, missing 65.

Eric was one of the missing officers and was presumed killed in this action, part of the second Battle of Loos, just eight days after joining his battalion in France.

He is remembered on the Loos memorial panels 93-95

He was awarded the 1915 star and British and Victory medals. These were applied for by his father on 23 October 1921, who had moved to Ancaster House, Pulborough, West Sussex.

Eric's brother served in the RFC and RAF (reaching the rank of Major and earning the Military Cross), and was a distinguished flying ace. He survived the war but was injured in a motor accident and a flying accident, and finally killed in a further flying accident in 1923 when the wing fell off his aircraft whilst flying near Chertsey in Surrey.

Sources
Berkshire Regiment Group photo www.groupphoto.co.uk and Andrew Tatham who has researched the men shown therein.
Berkshire Regiment War diary
Census 1901 and 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Medal index card
TNA file WO 339/5450


FOOT Douglas Eric 2nd Lt
8bn Princess Charlotte of Wales Royal Berkshire Regiment, 18 Div.
13 October 1915

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Sources
Berkshire Regiment Group photo and Andrew Tatham who has researched the men shown therein.
Census 1901 and 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Medal index card
TNA file WO 339/5450
Letter from Dr. Ernest Foot. He had hoped for a chance of Eric's survival.
**Foot, Major Ernest Leslie**

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

**Forbes, George Freeman Murray**

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Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

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**Letter from Dr. Ernest Foot. Last hope gone.**

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**Forbes, George Freeman Murray, son of Dr Forbes of unknown provenance, born 1896, L.S. and P. left 1913, architect, T/Lt Glos. Regt. 1914-18**

---

**T/Lt George Freeman Murray Forbes, O.B.E., M.C. 1896 – 1965**

George Freeman Murray Forbes (GF) was born in Hamilton, New South Wales, Australia on 5 June 1896 the second son of Dr Arthur Daniell Forbes (1865-1899), a medical practitioner and surgeon, and his wife Beatrice Agnes née Carruthers (1872-1952). Dr Forbes had been born in Devonport, England, the son of a Fleet Surgeon RN. He married in Australia NSW on 31 March 1894 and after returning from Australia practised at Deal in Kent. However he died in Tonbridge (GRO 2a 484) when only 33 leaving his young family in straightened circumstances. His wife Beatrice, whose family was of Scottish origin, was born in Dermarara, West Indies. GF’s grandfather, a Scot, had married in New Zealand and his wife, GF’s grandmother, was from Canada. As will be seen the family was associated with many different countries
and family contact may have become fragmented at times.

GF had two brothers, who did not go to Epsom, Charles Arthur Wellesly (1893-1916) also born in Australia and James Murray (1897-1966) who was born in Leyton in Essex. By 1914 Charles had moved to Canada with his brother James Murray and their widowed mother, who in March 1917 married a Canadian widower, William James Miller. She died in Ontario in 1952. Charles signed up for the Canadian Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.) in February 1915 and soon went to Flanders with the 1st Canadian Machine Gun Corps as a private soldier. Tragically on 13 June 1916 he was killed in action, his body being ‘blown to bits’, at Maple Copse near Ypres.3 His name was recorded later on the Menin Gate Memorial.

James also signed for the Canadian Expeditionary Force in January 1916 and in October sailed from Halifax to Liverpool eventually arriving in France in June 1917.4 He served initially as a private (No. 675158) in the 168th Bn. C.E.F. and then transferred to the Canadian Engineers serving as a sapper in the 3rd Canadian Tunnelling Coy. He sailed from England back to Canada in May 1919 for demobilisation and later married and became a farmer in Ontario where he died in 1966.

GF was entered at Epsom College by his widowed mother, then living at 12a, Sondes Rd., Deal in Kent, in the Michaelmas term 1908. He entered as a Foundation Scholar in the lower school in Holman House being placed in the Lower W form where he came 21/25 in the end of year placing.2 The next year in the upper W form but still in the lower school he did rather better and won the holiday reading prize. He then moved up into Propert House and the Modern Middle W form. However his academic achievements in the Modern Vth form in his final year remained somewhat limited and he left the College in 1913.

The EC Register 1855-1954 records that he became an architect but this is clearly a mistake as will be seen below although he may have intended to study for that profession when he left Epsom in July 1913 before the war intervened.

After leaving the College GF, unlike his brothers and mother, remained in England. When the war began he first joined, as a private soldier, the 28th (County of London) Battalion (Artists Rifles), a territorial unit.5 The battalion attracted recruits from the public schools and universities and a major part of its function after 1914 was to train officers for various regiments, more than 10,000 men being commissioned from the battalion during the war. In October 1914 it embarked for France to Bailleul and in April 1915 it moved to St Omer where it appears GF joined it on 11 August 1915.5 He received his commission as a T/2nd Lieut. on probation on the 13 November 1916 and was posted to the 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment (LG 29867 p12317).

The 1st Gloucester’s had been in France for a while when he joined them. They were with the 3rd Brigade in the 1st Division. On the 13th November 1916, the start of the Battle of the Ancre Heights the final stage of the Battle of the Somme, GF and five other 2/Lieutenants were recorded in the war Diary as joining the regiment which was then at Mametz Wood.6 Mametz lies just east of Albert north of the Somme in France. On the following day they moved into the front line trenches and the diary gives a graphic description of the conditions they found themselves in:

“--- Took over from 1st Northants. Owing to the thickness and depths of mud the relief was very late, many men going so deep into the mud that they had to leave their boots behind and carry on in bare feet until fresh boots arrived. Relief completed 4.30 pm. --- Casualties 2 killed 5 wounded.”

They remained in the thick of the fighting moving in and out of the fire trenches. In March 1917 they were at Assevillers and on the 18th it was noted “one patrol under 2/Lt GFM Forbes crossed the river and went a mile forward on the other side bringing in useful information”. They remained in dugouts at Boulogne Wood and then moved back to billets at Chauignes on 20th of March. This pattern of fighting in and out of the line continued throughout 1917 and by January 1918 they were near Ypres on the Canal Bank. They suffered casualties continuously and by March were in the front line holding the Poelcapelle defences. The list of officers serving with the battalion then, as recorded in the war diary, still has GF as a 2/Lieut.

On 18th April they took part in the Battle of the Lys the 1st Gloucesters fighting on the extreme right of the line at Festubert. The battle was fought ferociously in severe conditions and the battalion took heavy casualties. Three officers were killed and 3 wounded together with 15 OR’s killed and 87 wounded with 22 missing. As a result of their courageous stand at Festubert on 18th April a total of 34 decorations were awarded to members of the battalion.

In May GF was promoted to T/Lieutenant (LG 30749 p7124). After Festubert they were moved to rest billets at Noeux les Mines but were back in the front by July moving to Arras by the 31st. On 3rd September 1918 a general attack on the enemy was launched along a wide front. The battalion was supporting the Canadian Division in front of the village of Vis-en Artois behind Remy under shell fire and gas attacks. They then marched to the east of Arras and on the 11th were at Villers-Bretonneux supporting the Australian Corps. In severe fighting over the 15th and 16th September the battalion lost 2...
medical officers killed within 2 days and then on 23rd they moved to a position west of Frenoy on the left of the 3rd Infantry Brigade front ready for an attack on the 24th. Here in the heavy fighting around Gricourt on 29th September GF was to distinguish himself again. The battalion had 3 objectives the first being what was known as the Faucille Trench. Patrols had reported that this first objective was strongly held with machine guns. The attack was held up and the South Wales Borderers were told not to advance until the Gloucesters had achieved their first objective. With heavy enemy shelling and machine gun fire no advance on the general front could be made. The war diary reads as follows:

“Front line troops held up 250 yds.from first objective. Lieut Forbes with leading platoon of support Coy working round left flank of front line troops – Shortly after this South Wales Borderers attacked and gained 1st objective with little opposition and subsequently their 2nd objective.”

“5.30pm. Lieut Forbes now in 1st objective assisted by South Wales Borderers worked up Faucille and bombed German machine gun nest still holding out on top of the ridge – enemy at once withdrew – those going by Forestier Trench escaped those by Foratais Trench surrendered to the South Wales Borderers who had gained 2nd objective.”

For his actions during the Battle of St Quentin Canal as it became known GF was awarded the Military Cross. The citation was published on 29th July 1919 (LG 31480 p9732) and reads as follows:

T./Lt. George Freeman Murray Forbes, 1st Bn. Glouc. R. North of Gricourt on September 29th, 1918, when a frontal attack was held up, this officer on his own initiative worked round on a flank and entered the enemy’s trenches. By this action he was enabled to organise a bombing attack party which worked up to the trench and took the enemy by surprise and caused him to retire. This enabled the frontal attack to gain their objective. He showed the greatest gallantry, initiative and resourcefulness. The battalion then took part in what is known as the final advance in Picardy right up to the Armistice fighting in the Battles of the Beaurevoir Line, the Selle, the Sambre and finally the Passage of the Sambre-Oise Canal ending the war at Frenoy le Grand, after which it was withdrawn from the line for rest and training.7 During the next three months they marched steadily towards the Rhine stopping in billets as they went. Finally on 29th January 1919 “The following officers proceeded to England for demobilisation:- Lieut GFM Forbes ----- “ with five other 2nd Lieutenants. In 1921 he was sent the 1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal to add to his Military Cross.5 It seems that after the war he lost contact with his mother and surviving brother in Canada. In March 1920 he married Claire L.G. Middleton in Paddington, London (GRO 1a 173) but the marriage did not last and was later dissolved. In 1921 he was living in London at 7 Princes Sq., Bayswater W2.5 He asked for his war medals to be sent to this address, unless they were to be delayed until after 31st Dec 1921, when they were to be sent to his bankers, Grindley & Co. Bombay, India. Later that year he travelled to India arriving back to England from Bombay on the SS Dongola on the 4th October 1921 the ship’s manifest recording that his future permanent residence would be India.1a On 6 January 1922 he travelled alone on the “City of Genoa” sailing 1st Class to Bombay to take up the post of Assistant Superintendent in the Indian Police Service. He returned to England on a visit in 1930 and sailed back alone to Bombay on 14th March again giving his permanent place of residence as India.1a On 31 December 1931 and now divorced, he married in Madras, Nora Mary Rose Keene (1903-1991) and in the 1932 New Year Honours list he was awarded an O.B.E. for his services to the Indian Police (LG 33785 p10). He was serving as district superintendent in Madras at that time. He and Nora were to have three children, Alan M. born in 1937, Timothy J. born in 1942 and Jane M. born in 1945.

In April 1938 GF travelled to Colombo and then on to Southampton on the SS Orion with his wife and young son Alan.1a The purpose of the trip is not known but they returned to Colombo leaving England on 5 November 1938 on the SS Orford presumably intending to travel back to Madras on a local ship. It appears that they remained in India during WW2, he and the family finally returning to England on the Franconia on 5 June 1946 intending to remain permanently in England.1a

In 1947 they were living at ‘The White Barn’ in Reigate, Surrey. They moved later to ‘The House in the Wood’ also in Reigate and in 1960 their son Alan was living there with them.8 It seems likely that they were still there when GF died, in what was almost certainly then a nursing home, St Hubert’s in South Godstone, on 20 March 1965 (GRO 5g 954). His wife Nora died in Crawley West Sussex in November 1991 (GRO 18 1867).

Sources:
I Ancestry
1a Passenger lists 1921, 1922, 1930, 1938, 1946.
Charles S Gallannaugh November 2017

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


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London Gazette –LG
Fraser, Duncan Beaufort, s. of dr. Frank Fraser of Leigh, Kent, b. 1897, F., l. 1914, St. Bart’s Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lieut (S.R.) R.A. 1915-18; North Bovey, Newton Abbot.

Fraser, Maj. Alexander Edward Gordon

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

French, Robert Douglas

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Unit 6th Bn, London Regt
Buried Thiepval Memorial, France
Reference: Pier 9D
Buried High Wood

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Robert Douglas French Lieut
6 Bn(City of London Battalion) Lonon Regiment
KIA 15 September 1916

Robert was born 1897 (GRO Ref: Dec 1897 Barnet 3a 299) the son of Robert Houle French and his wife Dolina (Dolly) Macleay. His parents had married at Dingwall, Rossshire on 23 June 1896. Robert was also a grandson of Mr Hay Mackenzie Macleay, Riverbank House, Conon Bridge.

In 1901 the family was living at 2 Moss Bank North Finchley. Robert’s father was a 34 year old surgeon, his mother was 24. Robert was 3 and he had a baby sister Edna who was 8 months old. The family employed a cook a nurse and a housemaid.

Robert entered Epsom College’s Lower School on 3 May 1909 starting in Holman House. He progressed to Granville House in the Upper School. He fluctuated in his academic achievements, starting off as a middle ranking student, then falling to 19th position out of 23 boys for two years. He spent a second year in the Modern Middle I form and improved his position to 8th out of 23 boys.

He won a singing prize and played in the rugby XV and second cricket XI. He was the fencing, foils and sabres champion. He was also a prefect. He left in April 1915. His brother Alistair would also attend Epsom College 1915-1921

In the 1911 census Robert was recorded at Epsom College. His parents were living in the 14 roomed house at Moss Bank. They had had three children all of whom were living. Edna Mildred 10 and Alistair Reginald aged 6 were living at home. Margaret Headington, 35, was visiting the family. They employed 2 servants and a nurse.

After leaving school he studied medicine at the London Hospital where he did much good work. He was also in the London University OTC. He left to enlist on 30 November 1915 as a Temporary 2nd Lieutenant in the London Regiment. He went to
France on 27 May 1916 spending most of his time in the trenches. Writing to his school friend, Lieut Oates, he said: "This is my last letter before the great day, it is an experience of a lifetime, and one feels it is nice to be British, and be free. Those who have fallen and gone from this earth fighting for the old country are still in England. If you go out and see what a fine country we have and compare it with poor wounded France. And if they had not died we should not have it."

Robert was killed in action whilst bravely leading his men to take an objective, near Flers . . He had a very strong sense of duty, and was always cheerful and bright.

His Colonel wrote: "I can assure you of my great regret, for your son was a promising young soldier, and the battalion could ill spare him, and he fell in a most gallant assault on the German line."

The O.C. of his company wrote: "It is with the deepest regret I have to inform you of the death of your son in the great advance of the 15th inst. He died bravely leading his men, by whom he was much admired, which was shown by the fact that two men went through grave risks and even lost their lives in trying to save him. He was indeed a brave fellow, and we shall all miss him. Please accept my sincerest sympathy, and trust that the knowledge that he died like a man for his country may in some short measure lessen your great sorrow. His men write of him: "He was a true English gentleman, a great lover of England and duty, always thinking of others happiness, and to be anywhere near him was to know real happiness. A baby in years, but a man in heart and purpose, and he died a 'real little hero'. Lieut. French was a keen sportsman, a lover of music, he played and sang well; and his love of home and his parents was very great. Everyone, old and young, rich and poor, loved Douglas, and he will be sadly missed."

The Headmaster of Epsom College wrote: "You know how I honoured your dear son. If a headmaster could have favourites Douglas would be among the first. If only I had such a boy myself. Shall I bid you hope. It is not needed, and if it is too late to hope in that way, what death could a boy die to match the glory and pride of such an hour. We have always been proud of him and his memory lives here, and will live. He cannot have any real regret unless you sorrow more than he could wish."

His parents had no official notice from the War Office, other than he was missing. It was through the British Red Cross that they were able to get information. Dr French interviewed some of the men who were present on the day of the battle, and who were in hospital. They told him that Lieut. French had been wounded, but as he was the only officer of the Company left to carry on, he had his wounds dressed, and said: "Boys, you all have mothers we must think of the women and children of England and go on and win. So come on, boys, let's turn them out." Whilst the objective was being taken Lieut. French was shot dead by machine gun fire.

His parents were so appreciative of the help the Red Cross had given them that they asked if anyone wished to pay tribute to "this little hero son" they felt he would wish for them to help the Red Cross with funds for their most noble work.

He is buried at High Wood. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals, which were sent to his mother at Moss Bank in 1922.

Sources
CWGC
Census returns
Epsom Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Medal Index Card
TNA file not found
Univ of London OTC Roll of Fallen.
Furnivall, Capt. Gerald

Birth Year: 1879  
Entered Epsom College: 1892

Regiment: S.A. Col. Forces, Royal Fusiliers 1914-18

Researcher:

Furnivall, Capt. Gerald, late Royal Fusiliers, brother of the above, b. 1879, C., l. 1895, served S.A. Col. Forces (Queen's and King's medals), and 1914-18; 4 Percival Terrace, Brighton

Gabb, Capt. Geoffrey Mervyn

Birth Year: 1893  
Entered Epsom College: 1907

Regiment: Capt. Queen's (R.W.S.) Regt.

Researcher:

Gabb, Capt. Geoffrey Mervyn, late Queen's (R.W.S.) Regt., brother of S. A. G. (1898), b. 1893, W., h. XI, l. 1911 for R.M.C., solicitor; 20 Dumfries Place, Cardiff
Gabb, Harold Percy

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.
Rank
Decorations: M.C.

Researcher:

Gabb, James Desmond

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Rank
Decorations:

Researcher:

Gabb, Lt.-Col. Samuel Alwyne

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: Lt.-Col. Worcestershire Regt., Officer of the Crown of Belgium,
Rank
Decorations: O.B.E., M.C.

Researcher:

Gabe, Leslie Joseph

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Naval Rating 1915-18 Died 1923 as a result of active service
Rank
Decorations:

Unit: RN
Died: 1923 aged 25
Buried: Swansea
Reference: FBMD Swansea 11a 1064 Jun 1923

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Lesley was born in Morriston, Swansea on 12 March 1898 (GRO Ref Mar 1898 Swansea 11a 989) the son of Dr John Bernard Gabe and his wife Annie nee Rosser. His parents had married in 1877. Interestingly his service papers gave his date of birth as 12 Mar 1897. I think this is an error since he met the age requirement.
In the 1901 census the family was living at Pentreporth House, Morriston, Swansea. Leslie’s father, John was a 49 year old surgeon, his mother Annie was 41

Elizabeth Manterfield
His mother registered him to start on 15 September 1910 in the First Form of Epsom College’s Lower School, Holman House. They were still living in Perranporth House. He progressed to Forest House in the Upper School, where he played in the rugby XV 1914/15 and was in the second Cricket XV. He was recorded at the College in the 1911 census. Academically he was a consistent but not outstanding student, usually finishing in the bottom 25% of his year. He left Epsom College in July 1915 intending to study medicine at the Middlesex Hospital. However he interrupted his studies to join the Royal Navy as a naval rating.

On being engaged by the Navy on 2 Aug 1917 he was described as 5ft 7½ins tall, 35½in chest with dark brown hair, brown grey eyes, fresh complexion and of very good character. He was posted to the training base, HMS Pembroke, at Chatham from 2 Aug 1917-13 Aug 1917 and was then admitted to Chatham Hospital from 14 Aug 1917 to 10 Dec 1917 although I have not discovered why. He returned to HMS Pembroke on shore duties 11 Dec 1917-10 May 1918. It was recorded on 26 April 1918 that he was to be discharged in order that he may pursue his medical studies.

He died in 1923 (GRO Ref: June 1923 Swansea 11a 1064) as a result of active service. This may be related to his spell in hospital.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
Epsomian, no obituary
Epsom Register m/s
Free BMD
TNA naval record ADM/1072/27106

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gabe, Leslie Joseph, s. of dr. J. B. Gabe of Morriston, b. 1898, L.S. and F., XV, l. 1915, Middx Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Naval Rating 1915-18, d. 1923 as a result of active service

OE Doctors

Gabe, Leslie Joseph (1898-1923).
Epsom College: 1910-1915
LESLIE JOSEPH GABE (1898-1923). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1910-1915. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr J. B. Gabe, of Morriston, South Wales. He received his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Naval Rating (1915-1918) and died in 1923 as a result of active service. He was aged 25 years.

Gabriel, William Bashall

William Bashall Gabriel (1893-1976) [Epsom College 1908-1912] was the son of E. E. Gabriel, engineer of Oulton Broad, Suffolk. He entered Epsom College from Monkton Combe School and was a prefect, a member of the Rugby XV, and winner of the Watts Science Prize. In 1912, he won the Freer Lucas Entrance Scholarship to the Middlesex Hospital, where he was awarded the John Murray Gold Medal and Scholarship. During the First World War he joined the Royal Navy in 1916 and served as a surgeon lieutenant on a destroyer in the Mediterranean. After the War he returned to the Middlesex Hospital as a surgical and cancer registrar, and took the F.R.C.S. in 1918 and the M.S. of London University the next year. He was then appointed Honorary Assistant Surgeon at St Mark’s Hospital where he joined the eminent surgeons...
Sir Gordon Gordon-Watson and Mr J.P. Lockhart-Mummery. In 1931, he was appointed Consultant Surgeon to the Royal Northern and St Mark's Hospitals, and Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, London. It was at St Mark's Hospital that he won an international reputation for the surgical treatment of diseases of the rectum and colon.

One of his first and most outstanding contributions was the establishment of a cancer follow-up department (1922), the first such department in the United Kingdom. It was from the wealth of information obtained from these records that the results of treatment of cancer of the rectum at St Mark's Hospital have been assessed. In 1928 he developed a technique for excision of the rectum in cases of carcinoma. By 1952 he had performed one thousand such operations and seen the mortality rate for the operation drop from 17% to 2%. In 1932 he published his Principles and Practice of Rectal Surgery with four subsequent editions up to 1963. In his obituary it was written: “An austere and unbending manner was the expression of the way he disciplined his own life and the discipline he expected from those who worked with him. He was, and will remain, a legend for his wonderful example in total patient care. He inspired a great devotion and loyalty in generations of assistants who will be for ever grateful for the time, patience, and trouble he took to instruct and help them.

Gainer, Eric St. Clair

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| Epsom College Register 1855-1954 |


Gale, William Douglas

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| Epsom College Register 1855-1954 |

Gale, William Douglas, T.D., s. of J. J. Gale, auctioneer, of Garsington, Oxon, b. 1889, W., I. 1908, auctioneer and estate agent, Lt.-Col. R. Berks Regt. (T.A.); Wallingford, Berks

Galletly, John Alexander

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| Epsom College Register 1855-1954 |


Galpin, Cyril George

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| Epsom College Register 1855-1954 |

Galpin, Cyril George

Died 1921 aged 37

Buried Frome

Reference: FBMD Frome 5C 500 Mar 1921
Cyril was born in Kelvedon, Maldon, Essex 1884 (GRO Ref: Jun1884 Braintree 4a 537) the son of Richard Galpin and his wife Mary nee Reader. The couple had married in 1878 (GRO Ref: Dec 1878 Lewisham 1d 1367).

Cyril and his brother Richard initially attended Chertsey House School, and in 1888 took part in an entertainment of music and other activities for parents at the school.

In 1891 the family was living in Kelvedon, High Street in Essex. Richard was 42 years old and a surgeon and general practitioner. Mary was 37. They had four children: Richard aged 11, Cyril 6, Muriel 3 and Olive 18 Cyril’s cousins Harvey and Maud Reader aged 14 and 11, were staying with the family. A cook, housemaid and nurse completed the household.

Followed brother Richard to Epsom College on 21 September 1897 starting in the Upper third form, Wilson House. He won the botanical holiday prize twice in 199 and 1900. He also attained a first class pass in the art exam in 1900. He matriculated in 1902 and won the elocution and drawing prizes. In 1903 he passed the Preliminary Scientific exam.

Cyril was a keen sportsman and played a forward position in the first XV rugby team 1901-02, 1902-03. He was awarded the Forwards’ distinction Cap 1902-03.

The author of his critique published in the Epsomian Apr 02 considered him to be a rather a disappointing player. At times he was valuable out of touch but he failed to make sufficient use of his feet when he had the ball. A fair worker and useful place kick. By the following season his performance had improved and he had become a hard working and industrious forward usually in front row of the pack. His height made him very useful out of touch. And he was a very fair place kick. He also played in goal in the Hockey team. In 1903 he came second in the Open mile and Open half mile races.

He was a 2nd Lieut in the OTC and School Subaltern in 1901 and became a prefect in 1902.

In the 1901 census Cyril was recorded at Epsom College. His brother Richard, aged 22, was working as a clerk at the Bank of England, and boarding at 77 Kitts Road, Deptford. The boys’ parents were still living in Kelvedon High Street. His sisters Muriel 13 and Olive 11 were living at home, and a cousin of his father’s, 28 year old Martha Jane Olive was staying with them. A young surgeon, 28 year old Charles W Booker, was boarding with the family. They employed a cook and a housemaid. Muriel died later in the spring of 1901 and this was followed by the death of Mary Galpin in February 19?

In 1911 Cyril was working as a medical practitioner and staying with the widowed Mrs Bucknall and her daughters, at Plough Cottage, Marlborough Wiltshire. One of daughters was 16 year old Patience Isabel Pingo Bucknall. Having a handsome, athletic young surgeon staying the house provided the setting for Cupid’s arrow, and when she reached 21 Cyril and Patience married (GRO ref: Mar 1916 St Giles London 1b 1118).

The 1911 census records Cyril’s widowed father living in the 12 roomed Kelvedon House, in Kelvedon. Cyril’s brother Richard jnr aged 31, who was still working as a clerk with the Bank of England and his sister Olive 21 were living with their father together with a cousin, Martha Olive. The family employed just one servant.

Cyril received his medical education at St Mary’s Hospital, London having won a scholarship there. He attained a BSc, MB, LRCP and MRCS (London) He passed the final MBBS London in Nov 1911 and set sail on 16 April 1912 from London on SS Inanda for Durban where he intended to practice. However, his plans were cut short when he contracted dysentery and was forced to return to England.

Initially he was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Rifle Corps but during the First World War he served as a Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) at Gallipoli, and Salonika. The filthy, disease ridden environment which he encountered there accentuated the disease from which he never fully recovered. He was invalided home and appointed Officer in Charge of the Overseas Air Force Hospital at Shirley, with the rank of Major.

After the war he went into practice in Frome, Somerset where after some months he died at his home, Portway House, on 24 January 19218 He left a little son Richard who had been born in 1917 and a pregnant widow. His daughter Mary was born after his death.

His funeral was held on Saturday 29 Jan in St Mary’s Church, Kelvedon where the family had been known and loved for many years. Cyril was greatly liked by all with whom he came in contact for his genial and kindly disposition. There was a large turnout for the service at which his brother in law Captain Dixon played “O rest in the Lord” on the organ.

Probate for Cyril was granted to his widow Patience on 13 May 19121 and Sydney Alfred Williamson, solicitor. He left £3369 12s 10d.

Sources
- Census returns 1891,1901, 111
- Chelmsford Chronicle
- Epsom Register m/s and printed
- Epsomian Dec 1901 and Apr 02
- Free BMD
- Index of Old Epsomians biographies between 1890 and 1914.
- Probate records
- TNA AIR 76/174/207 not checked

Galpin, Cyril George (1884-1921).
Epsom College: 1897-1903

CYRIL GEORGE GALPIN (1884-1921). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1897-1903. prefect] was the son of Dr Richard Galpin, of Kelvedon, Essex, and brother of Richard Guy Eric Galpin [Epsom College 1894-1896]. He received his medical education at St Mary's Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. at Gallipoli, where he contracted dysentery. He was invalided home and appointed Officer in Charge of the Overseas Air Force Hospital at Shirley, with the rank of Major. Unfortunately he never fully recovered and he died in 1921, of chronic dysentery. He was 37 years old.
Playing Hockey in 1902

Galpin, coming off the hockey field

Galpin was the ‘subaltern’, or under-officer Head of Corps
Richard was born in Kelvedon, Maldon, Essex on 1 Nov 1879 (GRO Ref: Dec 1879 Witham 4a 431) the first son of Richard Galpin and his wife Mary nee Reader. His parents had married the previous year. (GRO Ref: Dec 1878 Lewisham 1d 1367).

In the 1881 census Richard’s father was 32 and working as a surgeon. His mother was 27. They lived in the High Street at Kelvedon, Essex and employed a cook and a housemaid. Richard was one year old.

Richard and his younger brother Cyril initially attended Chertsey House School locally, and in 1888 took part in an entertainment of music and other activities for parents and friends at the school.

In 1891 the family was still living in Kelvedon High Street, now the A12. Richard’s father was 42 and a surgeon and general practitioner. His mother was 37. Richard aged 11, had three siblings: Cyril aged 6, Muriel and Olive 18 Harvey Reader aged 14 and Maud Reader 11, Dr Galpin’s nephew and niece, were staying with the family. A cook, housemaid and nurse completed the household.

Richard only spent two years at Epsom College. He joined on 20 September 1894 when he started in the Middle Fourth form in Wilson House in the Upper School. He was average academically coming 10th out of 23 boys in the Middle Fourth form in 1895 and 13th out of 22 boys in the Upper Fourth in July 1896. He left at Christmas of that year.

In 1901 Richard, aged 22, was working as a clerk at the Bank of England, and boarding at 77 Kitts Road, Deptford. His brother Cyril was a boarder at Epsom College. The boys’ parents were still living in Kelvedon High Street. His sisters Muriel 13 and Olive 11 were living at home, and a cousin of his father’s, 28 year old Martha Jane Olive was staying with them. A young surgeon, 28 year old Charles W Booker, was boarding with the family. They employed a cook and a housemaid.

Tragedy first hit the family when Muriel died later in the spring of 1901 and this was followed by the death of Mary Galpin in February 1911.

The 1911 census records that Richard jnr aged 31, who was still working as a clerk with the Bank of England, was living with his father, sister Olive aged 21 and his father’s cousin Martha Olive in the 12 roomed Kelvedon House, in Kelvedon with just one servant. The family later moved to Sutton in Surrey.

Richard had enlisted on 10 Dec 1915 but was placed on the Army Reserve. He was not mobilised until 1917. At the time he was unmarried and living in the family home at Hillroome, Eaton Road, Sutton. He had his medical on 22 May 1917 in the City of London and attested on 17 July. He was 5 ft 6½ins tall with a 32½ in chest, weighed 124 lbs and had good 6/6 vision. He had 4 vaccination marks which had been made in infancy. Although generally fit he had a slight hernia and was advised to wear a truss. There were signs of varicose veins in the back of his right leg. He also bore the scar of an operation to remove his appendix, fairly major surgery for the time.

He embarked for Egypt on 1 Dec 1917 on the ill-fated HT Aragon. Once in Egypt, they would probably have been deployed to reinforce British fighting the Turks around Jerusalem.

For two weeks the ship had waited in the safety of Marseilles waiting for its sailing orders. Eventually they received the command and set sail with another transport ship, the Nile, and an escort of destroyers. Aragon was laden with troops, in total about 2,700 souls, and 2,500 bags of Christmas mail, important for the morale of the troops in Egypt. They made their way through heavy seas arriving in Malta on 23 December where they had 4 days respite. They then set sail for Egypt. On her arrival at Alexandria, Aragon was at first permitted into port but was then ordered out again due to the presence of mines. She had to anchor outside without any protection from submarine attacks. She was torpedoed by German submarine UC-34 on 30 December and sank within 15 minutes with the loss of 380 officers and men. 17 men from the 2 battalion Civil Service Rifles drowned including Richard. There is a illustrated description of the sinking by John William Hannay at www.merchantnavyofficers.com/rm2.html

Probate was granted to his father and brother Cyril. He left £3047 15s 6d. His father received a memorial scroll and plaque, and wrote seeking Richard’s medals. His medal index card shows he was awarded the British War medal and there is a receipt for this in papers. There is no indication of any others although his service papers show he was entitled to the War and Victory medals.

He is remembered on the Chatby memorial, on the eastern side of Alexandria in Egypt. His name is not on the Kelvedon war memorial.
Gange, Leonard

| Birth Year: | 1882 | Entered Epsom College: | 1895 | Regiment: | Sergt. of a T.M. Battery, killed in action in WW1 | House: | C | HMM? | ☐ | Rank | Cpl |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gange, Leonard | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Died | 13/10/16 | aged 29 | Unit | 8 Trench Mortar Bty, RGA | | Buried | Vermelles Brit Cem, France | | | Reference: | P5.RF.G1 | |
| Researcher: | Liz Manterfield | | | | | | | | | | | 

GANGE Leonard Gunner 5355 (Cpl 280355)
Royal Garrison Artillery attached “X” 8th Trench Mortar Battery
13 Oct 1916
Leonard was born on 9 November 1882 (GRO Ref: Dec 1882 Faversham 2a 852) at 40 Court Street, Faversham, Kent, and baptised in the church of St Mary of Charity, Faversham on 24 April 1883.
He was tenth child of Dr Frederick Abner Gange and his wife Susan nee Whitechurch. The couple had married in 1867 (GRO Ref: Mar 1867 Chesterton 3b 605) and produced their large family although three boys had died in infancy: Frederick, Osmond, John (died), Percy, Charles (died), Ernest, Susan Elizabeth (known as Elizabeth), Walter (died), Leonard and Patty.
Leonard’s father practised medicine from 40 Court Street in Faversham for fifty years, and the practice would be carried on by Leonard’s oldest brother Frederick Whitechurch Gange. Frederick senior was successful financially and left over £10,000 when he died in 1905.
In the 1891 census the family was living at 40 Court Street, Faversham, Kent. Leonard’s father was not at home. His mother Susan was 518 His brothers Osmond 22 and Percy 21 were both medical students. A third brother Harold was a 12 year old scholar, Leonard was 8 and his sister Patty was 7. Charles Hood, a medical doctor, was a locum living with them and they employed 3 servants.
Leonard followed his brothers (Osmond Whitechurch Gange 1886-1887 and Percy Ridley Gange 1887-1888) to Epsom College on 2 May 1895, starting in the Lower School. He moved up to the Senior School and was in Carr house. His academic application and achievement was not outstanding and he was usually ranked in the third quartile of his year. E.g
Leonard Gange’s form positions during his career at Epsom College:
1895 bottom of Upper III 24 boys.
1896 14 out of 30 boys,
1897 6 out of 26 L4 Middle school,
1898 13 out of 25,
1899 17 out of 22,
1900 14 out of 22 in Shell,
He attained a third class certificate of education.
He became a sub-prefect and then a prefect. He was an enthusiastic rugby player and played in the Rugby XV. His rugby critique assessed him as a powerful and hardworking forward of great value to the team, especially on a slow ground. He was very useful out of touch. He was recorded at the College in the 1901 census, was made a sub-prefect in 1901 and was placed in charge of the gymnasium. However, he was dismissed on 28 June for a gross breach of discipline and bad conduct. He had been
in trouble previously, but the precise reason for his dismissal has not been discovered. Leonard’s mother died on 28 Oct 1897 after a protracted illness and in the 1901 census, Leonard’s sister, 26 year old Elizabeth was living with their widowed father aged 71 at 40 Court Street, Faversham. Leonard’s other siblings were not there at the time. His father died in 1905.

After leaving school, Leonard went to work for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. On 29 May 1908 Leonard joined the Territorial Force as Gunner 28934 in the Royal Garrison Artillery for a short term. At the time he was working as a clerk. On enlistment he was described as 5ft11¼in tall, weighed 168lbs, had a 41inch chest when fully expanded, his expansion being 3inches. He had a fresh complexion, grey eyes and light brown hair. He had a scar on his left buttock and two tattoos, a cross on his left forearm and a star on his right forearm. He was found fit at his medical and his pulse rate was 116. He gave his next of kin as his siblings: Frederick of 40 Court Street, Faversham, Harold of Lynwood Avenue, Epsom, Surrey, and his sisters Elizabeth and Patty who were living at 9 Keyfield Terrace, Faversham.

He was posted on 14 August 1908. In August 1909 he passed a signalling course. For whatever reason, he decided to buy himself out of the Army for the sum of £18.00. His official discharge was dated 31 October 1909. £9 of this was refunded on 8 August 1916.

He married Florence Edith Bingley of 6 Charlwood Mansions, Grove road, Clapham Park 1910.

In the 1911 census he was visiting the Kirkman sisters in Streatham Hill. He was living in Brixton when he enlisted.

He went to France on 6 June 1915 as Gunner SR/5355. He was promoted to Corporal and was (acting?) Sergeant of a Trench Mortar Battery. He was killed in action 13 October 1916.

He is buried at Vermelles British cemetery Grave VF18 and remembered on the wooden panelled war memorial in the St Mary of Charity church in Faversham. He was awarded the 1915 Star, British and Victory medals.

Sources
Census 1891,1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register (M/s and printed)
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsom College School committee minutes July 19018
Free BMD
Medal Index Cards
TNA WO 97 Short Service Record TF
Whitstable Times Oct 1897

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gage, Leonard, brother of O. W. G. (1886), b. 1882, C., prefect, XV, l. 1901, employed by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, Sergt. of a a T.M. battery, killed in action in World War I.

Gardiner, Arthur Leslie

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Gardiner, Eric John

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Died 19/04/17 aged 21

Unit 5th Bn, Norfolk Regt
Buried Jerusalem Memorial, Israel
Reference: Panels12-15

Researcher: Liz Manterfield
Gardiner Eric John
2nd lieutenant 5 Norfolk Regiment. (Territorial Force)
Killed in action 19 Apr 1917

Eric and Ivan were born at 320 Humberstone Road, Leicester 18 Aug 1896(GRO Ref: Sept 1896 Leicester 7a 271), twin sons of Dr Arthur Gardiner, and his wife Margaret Wyndham Gardiner, née Pearce. Their father was a surgeon, MD, CM, and the anaesthetist at King’s Lynn Hospital.

In the 1901 census four year old Eric was recorded with his 39 year old mother at Bridge Street in Kings Lynn. He had an older brother Arthur Leslie, known as Leslie aged 7, his twin Ivan but recorded as John and a younger brother Robert aged 2. His maternal aunt Isobel Beatrice Pearse was staying with the family, and they employed a nurse. His father was with his medical partner, William Macauley, at their offices in Tuesday Market Place, Kings Lynn.

He entered Epsom College on 1 May 1908, joining the First Form in Holman House. He progressed to Carr House in the Senior School. He was recorded there in the 1911 census. He was a very able student academically, on average coming sixth in a form of approx 25 boys, and climbing to third place in 1912, when he also won the Middle School History and Divinity Prize. He had been a member of the Epsom College OTC but resigned when he left the school in the summer of 1913. Eric went to work in a corn business.

He joined up 12 June 1915. He was found fit and had never suffered any ill health. He was 5ft 10ins tall and had 6/6 vision. His referee for his application for a commission was Rev. B.V.V. Edwards, vicar of Gayton and senior curate of St. Margarets, King’s Lynn, who had known him for 10 years. He was recommended for a commission in 3/5 Norfolks, and was posted 2nd Lieutenant to 5 Bn at East Dereham. Eric was mentioned in despatches 16/1/1918.

As Eric was reported missing in action at the battle of Gaza 19 April 1917. 5 other officers were killed. His details were published in the Egyptian Gazette of 14/5/1917 but no information was forthcoming. A committee of adjustment was formed at Alexandria under General Murray to resolve pay owing and any financial commitments to be paid. They considered his case on 30 May 1917. No claims were found against him and his remaining kit, of which there was an unusually large amount, was forwarded to his father.

His belongings consisted of: Large amount of equipment with him at the front:. A kit bag, a tin box containing ear defenders, correspondence, 2 wallets, 6 razors, a safety razor in a case, 2 pairs of gum boots, 1 sketch, 4 large photos, 1 coat carrier, 1 sword brace and 2 sword frogs, 2½ pairs of socks, life saving waistcoat, 3 shirts, 1 pillow, 1 pair of shoes, 1 cap, 1 pair of underpants, 1 pair of trousers, 5 handkerchiefs, 2½ pairs of pyjamas, 2 jackets with 2 collar badges, 2 meal stars, 3 pillows, 1 camp chair, 1 camp bed, 2 brushes. A tin box containing 1 metal flask, 1 pair of glasses in case, 1 lanyard, broken wrist watch, 1 pair of suspenders, trench mirror in case, 1 nail brush, 1 tooth brush. 1 pipe, 1 cigarette holder, 3 curios, 1 clothes brush, 1 whistle, 1 air pillow, 1 khaki holdall, 3 ties, ½ pair of gloves, 2 under vests, 3 pairs of breeches, 1 jacket, 22 collars, 1 blanket, 1 sheet, 1 canvas basin, 1 cane. A valise containing a sleeping bag, 7 collars, 3 ties, 2 pairs of trousers (KD and SD) camera, mirror, lens, goggles, shaving brush, letters pipe, cigarette case, razor in khaki case, braces, strap, cheque book, 3½ pairs of socks, 2 under vest, 2 films, body belt, KD jacket, mosquito net (piece) breeches, British Warm coat, 3 shirts, SS belt with brace, wooden box, 3 tooth brushes, razor strap, comb, 2 handkerchiefs, nail brush, 4 keys, housewife, an odd suspender, an odd puttee, 3 towels. Pair of pyjamas, kit bag.

Private Arthur Hawes, of King’s Lynn, wrote home stating that he had seen Eric fall in action and that Eric’s was the only company of the battalion to reach its objectives at Gaza.

Eric is remembered on panels 12-15 on the Jerusalem Memorial. He is also named on King’s Lynn War Memorial, the All Saints church, South Lynn memorial window and the memorial at King Edward’s School, King’s Lynn.

Probate was granted on 10 Dec 1917 to Arthur Gardiner to administer Eric’s estate, valued at £102 12s 1d.

His father applied for his British and Victory medals on 4 February 1922 to be sent to him at Ripon Lodge, Bath Road, Reading. He also received his scroll and plaque.

Eric’s twin brother Ivan Jephson Gardiner was also killed. in Palestine at the Battle for Gaza where 6 officers were killed.

Sources
Census
CWGC
Epsom Register M/s and printed
Free BMD
TNA file
GARDINER Ivan Lieutenant, 5th Norfolk Regiment, attached Royal Air Force.
Died: 27 May 1918

Ivan and Eric were born at 320 Humberstone Road Leicester on 18 Aug 1896 (GRO Ref: Sept 1896 Leicester 7a 271), twin sons of Dr Arthur Gardiner, and his wife Margaret Wyndham Gardiner, nee Pearce. Ivan was the younger twin. Their father was a surgeon, MD, CM, and the anaesthetist at King’s Lynn Hospital. Details of his family can be found under Eric Gardiner.

Ivan was educated at Epsom College starting on 19 September 1907 in the Lower School, Holman House. His twin brother joined him there in May 1908. He was an able boy academically and after a poor start in his first year, he was always placed in the top 6 boys in his year. He left the school at Easter 1913.

He entered Guy’s Hospital Medical School on 30 September 1914 to study medicine and took the conjoint diploma. In 1914 he lived at 2 Willoughby Road, Hampstead NW.

Ivan was gazetted to the Norfolk Regiment 28 October 1915. He went to Egypt at the beginning of 1916 and was with his Regiment for about a year. Then he trained in Egypt for the Air Force and was on active service with 14 Sqn, Training Group, from April 1917 to the end of the following August. 14 Sqn worked closely with the Army and he was engaged on observation work during the battle of Gaza. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 1 July 1917 with the recommendation that he remained technical.

His health broke down in August and he was admitted to hospital on 24 August 1917. By November he was found fit for duty but with the limitation of ground duties and no flying for two months. His medical board on 28 Jan 1918 repeated the recommendation. During the winter of 1917-18 he was lecturing at No.3 School of Military Aeronautics. In spring 1918 he was knocked down by a tender whilst out cycling, and he was in hospital with his injuries for several weeks. His medical board on 1 April 1918 recommended that he should be granted further leave or be transferred to England for a period of 2-5 months

He drowned as the result of the torpedoing of HT Leasowe Castle, the vessel in which he was invalided home from Egypt to England. Several eyewitnesses saw Ivan on the night of the sinking and, according to the accounts, he gave up his place in a lifeboat to allow others to be saved. At first he was posted as missing believed drowned, and his death was then confirmed.

His twin brother Eric John Gardiner, was also killed in the war.

He is remembered on the Chatby Memorial, Alexandria, and is also named on King’s Lynn War Memorial and the memorial at King Edward’s School, King’s Lynn.

Administration of his estate was granted to Arthur Gardiner 14 Dec effects valued at £207 11s 7d. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father at Ripon Lodge, Bath Road, Reading.

Sources
CWGC
Free BMD
Kings College London Archives
London Gazette
Medal Index card
TNA AIR 76/176/61

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Gardiner, Robert

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Garlick, William Gilbert Peterkin

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Gashion, Stanley Michael

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GASHION Stanley Michael 2nd Lt
1 Bn East Surrey Regiment
8 May 1917

Stanley was born at 222 Camden Road, London on 24 September 1897 (GRO Ref: Dec 1897 Pancras 1b 122) the son of Michael Joseph Gashion and Maude Emilie nee Hollands his wife. His parents had been married 7 May 1896 in St Luke’s church, Bermondsey. He was baptised 11 Nov 1897 in St Paul’s church St Pancras, by James Ainsworth the vicar of St Lukes, Bermonsey who came to the church to perform the ceremony. Stanley’s father was an underwriter and insurance broker.

Stanley was initially educated at Homefield Preparatory School in Sutton, Surrey from 1907 until May 1910 when he started at Epsom College as a Day Boy. In 1911 the family was living at Delamere, a 10 roomed house in Grange Road, Sutton. Sidney’s parent had had 3 children all of whom were alive: Sidney Michael aged 13, Margaret Emilie Joan 10 and Anthony Lawrence 6. His brother would follow him to Epsom College in 1919.

Stanley continued his education at Epsom College until March 1915 when he left to enter the Royal Military College intent on an army career. He was in the Modern side of the school, which taught German and did more Maths and Science and less Latin than the classical side. Throughout his time he was in the top half of his form, and had several pieces of work selected for showing the head master as being especially good. He was also awarded the prize for general knowledge in 1914.

He passed the Army examination in February coming 34th although the number of candidates was not stated. He was found fit and joined the Royal Military College as a Gentleman Cadet. He already had some military experience as he had served in the Epsom College OTC as a private and as a Section Commander.

Stanley’s army medical records show that he was 5ft8ins tall, had a 31 in chest which he could expand to 33 ins, weighed 115lbs and had good hearing, teeth and vision. He was ½ inch below the minimum chest size for acceptance but the Board considered that he would have filled out sufficiently by the time he took up his commission on 2 Mar 1915.

He went to France on 27 Aug 1916. On 26 Sept 1916 a telegram was sent to his parents informing them that he had been admitted to 2 Stationary Hospital Abbeville with a sprained ankle and that his condition was satisfactory. This injury had been caused by a car that ran into him whilst the unit was on the march. The Medical Board at the hospital on 10 October 1916 agreed he was still suffering from pain and weakness from contusion of his left leg and ankle and recommended that he should have 21 days home leave to recover fully.

His parents received a telegram dated 14 May 1917 “Regret to inform you that 2nd Lt SM Gashion missing May 8. Does not necessarily mean either killed or wounded. Further news sent immediately on receipt.”

His parents sought information on what had happened to him. D Nawton gave evidence on 21 June 1917 “I was in the affair to
the left of Oppey Wood. We held an advanced post for 6 days then the Germans got through the Gloucesters and partly surrounded us. I saw Mr Gashion lying dead on top of a shell hole in “No Man’s Land”. His father heard of another witness Pte JW Butler of 1st East Surrey Regiment who was in King George’s Hospital in Stamford Street, London. Mr Gashion called at the War Office and requested that Private Butler was quizzed about his son’s death. The War Office obtained a statement from Butler, but did not believe it to be conclusive evidence. Another statement was obtained from 2Lt E P Neame who was a prisoner of war: “The Germans attacked us and we were uncertain whether they had breached a wood on our flank. 2nd Lt Gashion went to reconnoitre with 2 or 3 of his men. He waved his hand after he had gone a distance and this was the last I saw of him or his party. I believe no one else knows any more of him than I do, Lts Windebank and Weeks didn’t see him.”

By April 1918 it was considered that given the lapse of time without any information to the contrary, Lt Gashion had to be presumed dead.

No known grave. Remembered on the Arras Memorial in the Faubourg d’Amiens cemetery.

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals, which were sent to his father in 1922.

Sources
Census returns
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
TNA WO 339/57094 long no. 129485

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gater, Lt.-Col. Arthur William

Birth Year: 1877
Entered Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.
House: XV, l.
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
D. 1953.

Geohegan, Maurice Murray

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: Pte Malay States Vol. Rifles 1914-18
Geohegan, Maurice Murray, s. of Fleet Surg. C. E. Geohegan, R.N., b. 1893, L-S. and C., l. 1909, fruit grower, Pte. Malay States Vol. Rifles 1914-18; Box 430, San Marcos, California

Gibbons, Gerald Francis Previn

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

GERALD FRANCIS PETVIN GIBBONS (1892-1975). O.B.E., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1906-1910. Jenks Memorial Scholarship] was the son of Dr Henry Gibbons of Desborough, Northamptonshire, and father of Henry Sinclair Gibbons [Epsom College 1934-1937]. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. with Honours and Distinction in midwifery, and winning the Matthews Duncan Prize. Gerald Gibbons initially went into general practice at Kettering, and during the First World War served in the R.A.M.C. in France. In 1917, after the battle of Messines, he was posted to the 37th Division as D.A.D.M.S. with the rank of Major. He was twice mentioned in despatches and was awarded the O.B.E. From 1928 to 1935 he was Medical Officer of Health for Rothwell U.D.C. and served on the Northamptonshire Executive Council. From 1939 to 1947, he was President of the Northamptonshire Branch of the British Medical Association. At the introduction of the National Health Service in 1948, he was appointed Senior Hospital Medical Officer (surgical) and Vice-Chairman of the Group Management Committee. On retirement he was elected Surgeon Emeritus, at Kettering General Hospital.

Gibson, Charles

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors

CHARLES GIBSON (1886-1972). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), L.R.C.P. (Eng.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.) [Epsom College 1900-1904. head prefect. Captain Cricket XI. Jenks Scholarship] was the son of Dr Charles Gibson, of Harrogate. He received his medical education at the London Hospital, and went into general practice at Worthing, Sussex, where he was also Honorary Surgeon at Worthing Hospital 1920-1948. During the First World War he served in the R.A.M.C. in the Middle East. He was President of the Sussex Branch of the British Medical Association (1957-1958), and President of the Brighton and Sussex Medico-Chirurgical Society.

Gibson, Thomas George

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Researcher:
Gibson, Thomas George, C.B.E., brother of the above, b. 1887, F., prefect, XI, h. XI, Geog. Pr., l. 1905, Pemb. Coll., Camb, B.A., solicitor, T/Maj. West Yorks Regt. 1914-19, desp.; Newlands, Ashley Road, Epsom

Gibson, William John

**Entered Epsom College:** 1895
**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C
**House:** P

**Decorations:**
- L.M.S.S.A.

**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

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Giffard, Capt. Colin Hay

**Entered Epsom College:** 1894
**Regiment:** Capt. I.A. (1st Gurkha Rifles), formerly South Wales Borderers. D

**Died:** 08/03/16
**Aged:** 35
**Unit:** 1st Kings OGR (TMR)
**Buried:** Basra Memorial, Iraq
**Reference:** Panel 51

**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

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**Colin Hay Giffard**

Captain, 1st Reserve battalion King George’s Own, Gurkha Rifles the Malaun Regiment

Killed: 8 Mar 1916

Colin Hay Giffard was born on 6 Mar 1881 in Brighton (GRO Ref: June 1881 Brighton 2b 222), the second son of Douglas William Giffard and Mary Hay nee Tweedie, who had married in Kensington on 29 April 1879. (GRO Ref: June 1879 Kensington 1a 174). Douglas Giffard was a doctor.

In the 1881 census the family was living at 44 Old Steine (?check. diff to read), next door to the Royal York Hotel in Brighton. Colin’s father was 32 years old and recorded as a surgeon and general practitioner. He had been born in Guernsey in the Channel Islands. His mother was 27 and had been born in Scotland. The one month old Colin had a brother Douglas Henry Rendell Giffard who was a year old.

In 1891 the family was living at 5 Pavilion Parade, Brighton. Douglas was 42 and a registered surgeon. Mary was aged 37, Douglas junior was 11, Colin 10 and a third son, Gordon Carmichael Giffard, was 6.

Colin attended Epsom College between 20 Sept 1894 and 1900. He won an entrance scholarship and joined Propert House in the Upper School. He came 6th out of 23 boys in the Shell form in 1895, and 14th out of 22 in the Lower Fifth the following year when he also passed his Lower School Certificate with first class passes in two subjects. In 1897 he was a sub-prefect in the Upper School and a Prefect for the Lower School. He had a piece of work sent to the Headmaster as being of particular note. In 1899 he passed the London Matriculation exam, 2nd Division and became Head Prefect. See photograph.

Colin was an all round, outstanding sportsman playing in the school’s cricket (1898,99,1900), hockey and rugby (1898,1899) teams. He left in July 1900.

In 1901 the family was still living at 5 Pavilion Parade, but only 16 year old Gordon was living with his parents. I have been unable to find Colin.

Colin’s father was keen that his son should follow him in becoming a physician, but Colin had set his heart on army career, and...
reluctantly his father agreed. In December 1901 Colin had transferred from the militia to a commission in the South Wales Borderers. In 1903 he joined the Indian Army and went out to India. His objective was to join the Gurkha regiment. He was promoted from 2nd Lieutenant to Lieutenant 1st Gurkha Rifles stationed at Dharamsala in the Punjab, in March 1904. His promotion to Captain in 1st Reserve battalion King George’s Own, Gurkha Rifles (the Malaun Regiment) in 1910 was announced in the London Gazette in Jan 1911.

In 1911 Colin’s parents were living at Merlindale, 5 St Winifred’s Rd, Bournemouth. The census confirms that they had 3 children, all living.

Colin married Dorothy Emma Sutton in 1913 in Christchurch registration district. (GRO Ref: Sept qtr 1913 Christchurch 2B 1518). She was a niece of Major Nelson George, formerly of Wapiti Auckland New Zealand. On 27 Dec 1915 she gave birth to a son at 4 Longridge Road SW.

The 1st Battalion was deployed to the Western Front in France in December 1914 as part of the Sirhind Indian Infantry Brigade, attached to the 3rd (Lahore) Division. They helped to defend Givenchy and took part in the Battle of Neuve Chapelle in Mar 1915, the second battle of Ypres in April, the Battle of Festubert in May and the Battle of Loos in September. However the environment was so different from that in which the regiment had trained and they suffered badly during the winter, that in December 1915 it was decided that Indian infantry units could be redeployed to other theatres of war. 3 Division including 1 Bn Gurkhas was sent to Mesopotamia.

Notes from the Battalion war diary, much of which was written by Colin in his role as adjutant.


8 Jan Embarked on barges and started up River Tigris. All heavy kit and uniform was left at Marghil.

15 Jan Arrived ORAH.

3 Div took part in a series of unsuccessful attempts to relieve Kut-al-Amara including the attack on Dujaila Redoubt in March 1916. Kut remained under siege until the end of April when it surrendered to the Ottomans.

The 1/1 Gurkha Rifles Battalion war diary recorded the events for 8-9th March 1916:

"8 Mar 1916. Marched all night 7/8. Came on advanced Turkish trenches about 4am on 8th. Trenches unoccupied. Hit off Dijailah Depression correctly and marched along it till day light when the Dijailah Redoubt and Turkish camp appeared to the NW of the depression. Our guns started shelling the Camp and Redoubt. It was not however until 9.45am that the 9th Bn attack started on the Redoubt. 1/1 Gurkha Rifles on the right and 93rd Burmese Infantry on the left, 1/9 Gurkha Rifles in support, HLI (Highland Light Infantry) in reserve. Our attack started with 2 Platoons of No 1 and 2 DLI (Durham Light Infantry) in the firing line and two Platoons in support. No 3 and 4 DLI in same formation in second line. About 10.45am Turkish reinforcements having come up, very heavy fire opened from trenches on our left flank and it was found impossible to push on. The 1/9 Gurkha Rifles and then the HLI were brought up to reinforce and two further attacks attempted at 2pm and 5.15pm but impossible to make any headway. At dark orders were received for the Bn to retire and form battalion reserve in a nullah by 13 HQ. After dark the Bn collected wound, picked up and carried back to First Aid post. Dead buried. Bn arrived back in reserve about 10pm.

Casualties amongst British officers were Capt WP Cruikshank, Capt Greatwood and Capt CH Giffard adjutant.

9 Mar 1916. Orders received at 1am that all units to be retired and were to form up on bund in Dijailah depression. Arrived about 5am at spot indicated and took up position covering north side of the depression, The bodies of Capt Cruikshanke and Capt Giffard were brought back and buried. About 11am received orders for Bn to form AG (Advance Guard?) to 9 Bn in retirement, Arrived pools SITOOM about 5pm and received orders to continue march to camp ORAH arriving about 10.45. Everyone done up.

Colin was mentioned in despatches and although there is a record of his burial, his grave was lost so he is remembered on the Bosra memorial, Panel 51.

He was awarded the 1915 Star and the British War and Victory medals were awarded to him by the Government of India.

Probate for his estate was granted to his widow Dorothy Emma Giffard in London on 3 Mar 1916. His effects were valued at £337 16s 10d. Colin’s address was given as Mountain Lodge, Dharamsala, Punjab, India.

An article appeared in the Epsomian 1916, written by an Epsom resident who had not known him at school, that described him as "the rare irresistible type whom to know is to love…. the best kind of schoolboy, the kind that makes the best soldier and best Englishman, brave, cheerful, chivalrous, manly and warm hearted, the character that wins devotion at school and in the army. His young life was full..."*

Sources
Free BMD
London Gazette
CWGC
Census 1881,1891 not found 1901 or 1911
Epsomian 1916
Epsom Register.
Probate record
Times
TNA 1/1 Gurkha Rifles War diary WO 95/5109
Photos from Epsom College archives-EC Representatives
Gilford, Rupert Cyril D'Arcy

**Birth Year:**

**Entered Epsom College:** 1909

**Regiment:** T/Maj R.F.C. and R.A.F.

**Rank**

**House:** HMM? ☐

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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**Gilbert, Claude Edward Gillett**

**Birth Year:**

**Entered Epsom College:** 1882

**Regiment:** T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1914-18

**Rank**

**House:** HMM? ☐

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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**Gilbertson, Herbert Marshall**

**Birth Year:**

**Entered Epsom College:** 1901

**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

**Rank**

**House:** HMM? ☐

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**
Gilbertson, Herbert Marshall, s. of Dr. J. H. Gilbertson of Hitchin, b. 1886, P., XV, l. 1904, St. Bart's Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; 30 Bancroft, Hitchin

Herbert Marshall Gilbertson (1886-? M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1901-1904. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr. J. H. Gilbertson, of Hitchin, Hertfordshire. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew's Hospital, and went into general practice at Hitchin. He was also Assistant Medical Officer for the North Hertfordshire and South Bedfordshire Hospital, and Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the 1st District, Hitchin Union.

Giles, Austin Charles

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank: 

Giles, Austin Charles, M.C., brother of O. B. G. (1901), b. 1890, P., l. 1907, Edin. U. and Roy. Inf., M.D., Ch.B., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; 18 Portman Crescent, West Southbourne, Bournemouth

Austin Charles Giles (born 1890). M.C., M.D., B.Ch. (Edin.) [Epsom College 1902-1907] was the son of Dr Oswald Giles, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and brother of Oswald Bissill Giles [Epsom College 1901-1905]. He received his medical education at Edinburgh University, and went into general practice at Sleaford, Lincolnshire. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918) and was later promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel.

Giles, Hubert Matheson

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1899
House: HMM?
Rank: 

Giles, Hubert Matheson, s. of Cdr. H. G. Giles, R.N., b. 1884, W., l. 1902, underwriting member of Lloyd's, Capt. City of London Yeo. 1914-33, seed. R.F.C. and R.A.F. 1916-19; The Platt, Haslemere

Giles, Oswald Bissill

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Maj. R.F.A. 1914-19
House: HMM?
Rank: 


Gill, Lt.-Col. (Brevet Col.) Clifford Allchin

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1888
House: HMM?
Rank: 

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**Glendinning, James Graham**

**Died** 02/12/17 aged 20

**Buried** Harlebeke New Br.Cem, Belgium

**Reference:** P12.RA.G1.

**Additional Information:**
James was born at Larchfield in Abergavenny on 20 Mar 1897, the only son of Dr James Glendinning and his wife Margaret Ann nee Graham. They had both been born in Scotland. In 1901 the family was living in Abergavenny, probably in a house called Hillcrest on the Old Monmouth Road, where 54 year old James senior was the medical superintendent of the Monmouthshire Lunatic Asylum and the family had quarters. Margaret was 40 and James was 4. They had 2 servants. By 1911 James aged 14 was living with his family in a 12 roomed house, Larchfield, in Abergavenny. James’s older sister 23 year old Ellen was living with them also. They employed a cook and a housemaid. The census confirmed that the couple had been married 26 years and had had 2 children both of whom were still living.

James was educated initially at Abergavenny Grammar School and then entered Epsom College’s Senior School in the Lower Fourth form, Wilson House on 21 Sept 1911. He was not outstanding academically finishing about three quarters of the way down his year of 24 students in 1914 and 1915. He became House Prefect in Sept 1915 and Head of House, and the Headmaster considered him to be excellent in both roles. He was Captain of Wilson’s rugby XV and a winner of the Macfarlane Cup for Athletics. He had been a keen member of the College OTC, serving as a capable Section Leader and attended annual camp in 1914 and had been found to be efficient in 1912-1915 inclusive.

He had planned to study medicine but on leaving school on 31 March 1916 joined the army. He was 5ft 8½ inches tall, weighed 138lbs, had a 31inch chest that could expand to 34½inches, and 6/6 vision. He had a scar on his left cheek. He enlisted on 10 Jan 1916 as Private 25914 in the Ox and Bucks Light Infantry.

He applied for a commission in the 3rd Bn Monmouthshire Regiment which was approved on 18 April 1916. He joined No 6 Officer Cadet Battalion at Balliol college Oxford on 11 July 1916 and went to France in September where he was attached to the 6th Cheshire Regiment. After six month’s almost continuous service in the trenches he joined the Royal Flying Corps (RFC). He reported to Reading on 25 July 1917 and five days later was being trained as an observer at Hythe. He returned to 57 Sqn RFC at Ste-Marie Cappel in France in September 1917.

James was killed in action while serving as an observer with 2nd Lt John Turton Orrell flying a DH 4 A7679, on 2 December 1917. DH 4 was a two-seater light bomber built by De Haviland and delivered to 57 Sqn in May 1917. The men left Ste-Marie-Cappel aerodrome at 1010 hours on a mission to photograph and bomb battery positions and at 1700 were still out. They failed to return. The Germans dropped a message into British lines that Glendinning had been killed and his name was published in a list of British flying losses in December 1917 in a German newspaper. It was concluded that he had been killed in action on 2 December 1917 aged 20. Information obtained later indicated that the pair had been shot down 500m north of Moorslede and buried by the road from Roulers to Menen. Their bodies now lie in Harlebeke New British Cemetery in Belgium, plot P 12, RA, G1.

In August 1918 his father received James’ identity disc and cheque book from the Germans. He later received his pocket book containing 15 photos, a registration card, 5 visiting cards, 2 newspaper cuttings, 1 tobacco pouch, a wristwatch and strap, a lighter, a fountain pen, a notebook, a cigarette case, a match box, an advance book, 5 francs 50centimes and a 10 shilling note. He is remembered on the Abergavenny War Memorial.

A memorial notice appeared in the Epsomian: “All those who knew James will hear with deep regret that no news has been received since a message came from the enemy sources stating that he and his pilot were killed in action on 2 Dec 1917.” “Through all the letters from his fellow officers who speak with appreciation of his energy and efficiency there runs a note of sincere affection, His selection as Mess President both in the Cheshires and in Flying Squadron was another tribute to his happy and kind disposition.”

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father at Lyndhurst, Avenue Road, Abergavenny.

Sources
CWGC
Epsom College register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Epsomian
Flight magazine
National Archives:
AIR 79/2125/236132 and AIR 76/184/139
WO339/27580

WO 372/8/34868
Air 1/886
Air 1/968 pg 428
Air 76/184/139

Elizabeth Manterfield

GLENDDINNING James Graham, 2nd Lieut, 3 Bn Monmouthshire Regt and RFC 57 Sqn
Killed: 2 Dec 1917
Glendinning, James Graham, s. of dr. James Glendinning of Abergavenny, b. 1897, W., prefect, MacF. cup, l. 1916, T/2nd Lt. Mon. Regt. att. R.F.C., killed in action 1918

Wilson House War Memorial

Godward, Cuthbert

Godward, John Sidney

Godward, Cuthbert, s. of Alfred Godward, insurance official, of Epsom, b. 1894, D.B., XI, h. XI, l. 1912, Home Civil Service, T/Lt. Lincs Regt. 1915-18, brother of J. S. G. (1909) and A. H. G. (1914); The Little House, Red House Lane, Walton on Thames

Wilson House War Memorial

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Goodman, Eric George

Birth Year: 1894 Entered Epsom College: 1906 House: P
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Dorset Regt. Killed in action 1917 Rank 2Lt

Goodman Eric George

Died 12/04/17 aged 23
Buried Arras Memorial, France

Reference: Bay 6

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

GOODMAN Eric George
6 Dorset
12 April 1917

Eric was born on 10 May 1894, at Hilgay, Downham Market, Norfolk, (GRO Ref: June 1894 Downham 4b 347) one of twin sons born to Thomas Herbert Goodman, known as Herbert, and his wife Mary Ann nee Tingey. His brother was Mackintosh Allen Goodman. Their parents had married in 1890. (GRO Ref Sept 1890 Depwade 4b 389).

In the 1901 census the family was living at 39 High Street, Haverhill in Suffolk. Eric’s father was a medical physician and surgeon. His mother, Mary Ann was 33. Eric and Allen were 6 years old, and they had two younger siblings, Roy aged 4 and Muriel Eva aged 2. The family employed a nurse and a servant.

His father, still living at Haverhill, Suffolk, registered him to start at Epsom College on 20 September 1906, where he joined the Lower Third form in Propert House. He was a middle ranking student coming 9th out of 23 boys in 1907 and 10th out of 16 in 1908. He left in April 1909.

In the 1911 census Eric was boarding at a grammar school in Skipton-in-Craven in Yorkshire. Here he was captain of the school rugby and cricket teams, and sports champion in 1910.

By 1913 he was working as a Civil Servant for the Board of Education.

He joined the Territorial Army on 4 April 1913 as Private 1616 at the age of 18 years and 11 months. He was living at 362 King Street Havershams. He was 5ft 8½ins tall, 33in chest with an expansion to 36 inches. His vision was 6/24 in his right eye and 6/18 in his left. He had a good physical development and was found fit for 15 (City of London) Battalion London Rifles, otherwise known as the Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles. He served at home from 4 Apr 1913 until 16 March 1915. He embarked from Southampton on 17 March 1915 arriving in Havre the next day. He was appointed Lance Corporal in the field on 15 July 1915. On 22 Jan 1916 he was appointed Temporary Lieutenant in the field in the 6 Dorset Regiment.

He received a gun-shot wound in his left temple at Mametz Wood, Sauty, France on 7 July 1916. He was treated in Leicestershire Base hospital, where he was also diagnosed with nerve shock and depression, and experienced palpitations, headaches, weight loss, loss of memory and insomnia. He was granted sick leave from his father’s care at 39 High Street Haverhill on 16 Aug 1916. His wound extended down to the outer corner of his left eyelid and was unstable. It also made him uncomfortable in strong light. His father noted that he was much quieter than formerly and very depressed at times which with his loss of appetite was attributable to shell shock. By 23 November a medical board found him fit for service.

On 17 April 1917 his father received a telegram telling him that Eric was missing, believed killed.

Miss Ethel Saunders of Burghcote Kings Lane, Sutton, Surrey visited the War Office where she was given a bundle of letters that Eric had tied up and marked that they were to be sent to Miss Saunders in the event of his death, and his driver’s licence, a leather belt, and a religious book.

Considerable efforts were made to confirm whether he had been killed. The Red Cross tracked down 25750 Private Poole who stated that he saw Goodman killed by a shell at Arras. 114035 Spencer stated that he and A/CSM were blown to pieces by a shell during the attack at Arras, and that he had been told that some of the pieces were collected for burial. He also said that the Col’s orderly (L Cpl Davey) had given Goodman a cup of tea before he started and his parting words were “The third time pays for all.” It was his third time over the top.

Another witness stated that he had been within 50 yards of Goodman when they were trying to join up with C Company. He and A/CSM Brien were blown up by a shell in No Man’s Land near Monchy, Arras. This happened at the furthest point reached. The platoon dug in for the night and retired in the morning.” Strangely all the witness accounts relate to 23 April but the CSGC records his death as 12 April 1917.

Eric made a will on 25 Feb 1917 “My Executor to retain for himself and to hand to each of them my mother, my brothers and sisters from my personal belongings some tangible momento to keep in remembrance of me. To apply the remainder of my estate with real and personal benefit of my godson Allan Eric Tingey.”
Probate was granted to his father on 16 Feb 1918 to administer his estate valued at £263 6s 5d. His address was recorded as 39 High Street, Haverhill Norfolk. His body was never recovered and he is remembered on Bay 6 of the Arras memorial and on the Haverhill War Memorial. He was awarded the 1915 Star, the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom College register m/s
Epsom College Yellow Book
Probate
TNA file WO 339/54660 Long no. 126110

Gordon, Brian Wilson Barnett

Birth Year: 1899 Entered Epsom College: 1908 House: HMM?
Regiment: T/Lt. R.G.A. 1916-18 Rank

Researcher:

Gosnell, Col. Kenneth Arthur

Birth Year: 1893 Entered Epsom College: 1908 House: HMM?
Regiment: Col. I.A. Rank

Researcher:

Gower, Group Capt. Edwin Lewes Montague Leveson

Birth Year: 1891 Entered Epsom College: 1905 House: HMM?
Regiment: Group Capt. R.A.F. Rank

Researcher:

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Group Capt. Edwin Lewes Montague Leveson Gower A.F.C. 1891 – 1942

Edwin L.M.L. Gower (EG) was born in Godstone, Surrey (GRO 2a 174) on 10th September 1891, the only child of Frederic Lewes
Gower, a stockbroker of Homefield Lodge, Warlingham and his wife Frances Cicely Bowman. He was baptised on the 18th April 1892 at All Saints Warlingham but when he was only four, in 1895, his father died. At that time the family were living in Epsom.

After early schooling, in 1905 his widowed mother, then living at Fairlands, the Common, Sutton, enrolled him at the College and he entered the Lower Third form. At the end of his first year he was placed 16th out of 20 pupils. He moved from the Lower School into Wilson House and in Lower Middle 1 he came 3rd in form out of 22. He also won the Lower School Drawing prize but left the College at the end of the Michaelmas term in 1906.

The 1911 census finds him working as an assistant to a farmer in Powick, Worcestershire. It may be that his mother’s possibly straightened circumstances at that time made it necessary for him to earn his living at a young age and accounts for the early end to his schooling at Epsom. However in August 1913 he was back living at his mother’s address working as an insurance broker as stated on his flying certificate obtained at the Bleriot School of flying at Hendon. He flew a Bleriot Monoplane, a curious looking contraption with the appearance of a plywood tube mounted on pram wheels with wings. It was to be used in the early days of the Royal Flying Corps (RFC), which had been founded in April 1912, for reconnaissance work in the early months of the war. In 1914 the Bleriot School of Flying moved to Brooklands and became an important centre for training British pilots. In June 1914 Flight magazine ran a short article about Bleriot and recorded that Mr Edwin Gower was to be Chief Pilot. His exploits were frequently mentioned in the magazine that year. The 50 HP Bleriot appears to have been his machine of choice.

EG lost no time in signing up for military service. He joined the Military Wing of the Special Reserve RFC and in August 1914 was commissioned as a 2/Lt on probation (LG 28873 p 6503). In December he was confirmed in his rank and within a few days was promoted to Flying Officer (LG 29005 p 10662). It is not entirely clear when he went to France but in August 1915 he was promoted to A/Capt. and in the New Year 1916 he was mentioned in despatches (LG 29422 p 12).

In February 1917 ‘Flight’ magazine reported the announcement in the London Gazette in January that year of those who had been appointed Squadron Commanders in the Military Wing RFC. Amongst whom was EG serving as a T/Major (LG 29220 p 957). In September he was appointed Officer Commanding No. 98 Squadron which had been formed at Harlaxton in August 1. He served in that capacity from September to December 1917. At that time the Squadron was stationed at Old Sarum and seems to have trained on a variety of aircraft whilst waiting to be equipped with De Havilland 9s whose engines were under development. At some stage between December 1917 and April 1918, when the Royal Air Force was formed from the amalgamation of the RNAS and RFC, EG was moved to take command of 83 Squadron.

In early 1918 83 Squadron was based at Narborough in Norfolk and on the 1st March it was ordered “to proceed overseas under the command of Major El Gower”.3 They flew to Auchel, a small village in the Pas de Calais Region near Bethune. 83 was one of three squadrons of 54th (Night Wing) of the RAF 1X Brigade. It flew FE2bs, a night bomber, attacking German troop concentrations before the spring offensive of 1918. Later it concentrated on destroying railway installations and undertook reconnaissance work.3

Its first notable achievement was on 22nd March “when a large naval gun was effectively silenced”. Between the 27th and 30th March the Squadron “persistently bombed railways, dumps and guns behind the Boche lines” in the Bapaume area most machines flying 4–5 trips each night. On the 2nd of May they were forced to evacuate Auchel aerodrome following a bout of particularly heavy shelling and moved to Franqueville near Abbeville where operations were quickly resumed.

A letter in the squadron records3 reported that “On June 14th three machines accomplished a reconnaissance of the Bapaume, Peronne, Cambrai, St Quentin area in appalling weather conditions, bringing back very valuable information as to large movements of German troops”. All 6 Flying Officers who took part in this sortie were awarded the DFC. On the night of the 26/27 June an immediate DFC was awarded to Lt. Frank Billings for a reconnaissance carried out over Tournai and Lille.

Not long after this “In the latter part of July, Major El Gower relinquished command of the Squadron” and Major Ian Price M.C. took over. The Squadron continued to harass the enemy until the end of the war. The human cost of all this activity to the Squadron is seen in the casualty figures for the time they were in France. A Flt Sergeant was killed, 2 Officers died of wounds and 14 others were injured. Five more became prisoners of war.

The Squadron was disbanded in early 1919 although it was to be reformed before WW2 in which it played a leading role. In 1919 EG was placed, along with many others, on the unemployed list (LG 31380 p 7072) and then in the New Year List in 1920 it was reported that Major ELML Gower had been awarded the Air Force Cross (EG 13543 p 4139). He was entitled to receive the British War Medal and Victory Medal but the medal roll index at TNA (WO 372/24/24807) records only the fact that he was mentioned in despatches and he may not have submitted a claim for his medals as officers were expected to do. It seems that he returned to his civilian occupation after the war and after the founding of the Auxiliary Air Force in 1924 he joined that organisation. Members were expected to attend at intervals for annual training and to use facilities near their residence and at nearby RAF aerodromes.

In 1936 he purchased land in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire where presumably he built a house and in July 1939 was promoted to Wing Commander in No. 906 (County of Middlesex) Squadron (LG 34644 p 4772). The 906 Squadron was responsible for the barrage balloon defences around London in WW2. It was set up in 1938 and consisted of five flights each of nine balloons and was based in Hampstead and Kensington (Wikepedia). In Sept 1940 he became a Group Captain in the Auxiliary Air Force (LG 39949 p 5591).
Group Capt. Edwin Gower AFC died in the Royal Masonic Hospital on 13th May 1942. The Royal Masonic Hospital had become for the second time a war hospital and treated over 8500 servicemen during WW2. He was then living at 2Q Portman Mansions, Baker Street W.1., and the death certificate (GRO 1942 01a 255) records his occupation as a Group Captain RAF (Company Director). Death, however, occurred as a result of haemorrhage rather than a war injury after a surgical operation to remove a para-ureteric cyst. Following a post mortem and inquest, death was recorded by the Coroner as misadventure. As a serving member of the armed forces he was buried in a CWGC recognised family war grave in Shirley (St John) Churchyard, Croydon, alongside his parents. The name of his wife, Ruth, is recorded on the family gravestone but no record of their marriage has been traced suggesting the possibility that they were married abroad. There appear to have been no children of the marriage.

His mother had died at her home in Queen’s Gate, Kensington in August 1941 not long before EG, leaving him her substantial estate but it is not clear as to whom this passed to as there are no family members named in the probate records.

Sources:

Ancestry
General Registry Office (GRO)
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
London & Edinburgh Gazette (LG/EG)
Flight – 5th June 1914: 1st Feb 1917
1A Short History of No.98 Squadron RAF. Lambert WR & Brown RA:1967.
2RAF 1X Brigade Order of Battle April 1918
3 TNA - History of 83 Squadron RAF 1918. AIR 1/176/15/190/1
4 CWGC Shirley (St John), Croydon Sec E Grave 56

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gower, Group Capt. Edwin Lewes Montague Leveson, A.F.C., s. of F. L. Gower, stockbroker, of Warlingham, b. 1891, L.S. and W., l. 1906, d. 1942

Edwin’s Flying Certificate details
Grant, George Leonard

Birth Year: 1890  
Entered Epsom College: 1900  
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. Killed in action 1915  
Rank: Capt  

Died: 11/10/15  aged 25  
Buried: Mazingarbe Com Cem, France  
Reference: G.106

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

George was born on 30 June 1890, (GRO Ref:Sept 1890 Edmonton 3a 390) the only son of Dr Leonard and his wife Louisa Grant nee Wade of New Southgate. His parents had married on 22 April 1884 in Kensington. George was baptised in New Southgate church on 26 July 1890. George was 9 months old at the time of the 1891 census and his parents, Leonard a 31 year old...
In the 1901 census family had moved to Hillside, Station Road, New Southgate. Leonard was still working as a doctor. George’s sisters Frances 11, Lilian 9, Dorothy 7 and Marguerite 6 were at home with him. The family employed a maid, a nursemaid and a cook.

George entered Epsom College on 4 May 1900 in Propert House and was recorded there in the 1901 census. He played in the hockey XI and captained the 2nd XI cricket. In the critiques in 1908 he was described as a good captain, who bowled well on his day and had a very good hitting eye. He became a prefect and gained the Brand prize and the Stone scholarship, the former testifying to the esteem in which he was held in respect of his character and conduct. He left in July 1908 to go up to Queen’s College, Cambridge. He had been a keen member of the Epsom College OTC and continued this interest at Cambridge, serving in the medical unit. He achieved his certificate A and B successfully. He also represented Queens at rugby and hockey. In 1911 the family was living in a 12 roomed house at 100 Station Road, New Southgate. The census confirmed that his parents had been married for 26 years and had 5 children all of whom were living. George was a 20 year old medical student, his sister Frances 21 was a female clerk in the Civil Service. Lilian 19, Dorothy 17 and Marguerite 16 were also students. 25 year old Adam Grey, a medical practitioner, was boarding with the family and a medical student was visiting them. They employed a cook and a housemaid.

On leaving Cambridge George entered the London Hospital where he studied for his medical and surgical qualifications and attained MRCS, and LRCP.

He enlisted in the Territorial Army at Buckingham Gate for four years on 23 October 1911 as no 1533. He was 5 ft 8ins tall, weighed 10st 4 lbs, had a 33½in chest that expanded to 37½ins. He had a good physical development and good vision in both eyes. He had been promoted to Staff Sergeant in the OTC (10 Oct 1911) because he was very able and efficient. He attended annual camps at Frith Hill 1912 and Abergavenny in 1913. He served at home until he went to France 16 Sept 1914 with the Expeditionary Force in the ranks of the London Scottish but on 30 Sept 1914 was made a temporary lieutenant and was transferred to hospital work as a civil surgeon. He obtained his commission in the RAMC on 15 March 1915. For some months he was a surgeon on an ambulance train and then became the Medical Officer in charge of the London Scottish. He was promoted to Captain on 30th September 1915.

Less than a fortnight later, George was hit on the back of the head by a shell exploding in the trenches, hitting him and five others whilst conducting morning sick parade on 11 October 1915, and died a quarter of an hour later at 10.15 without recovering consciousness. His parents received a telegraph of Royal sympathy.

Lt-Col James Lindsay wrote: "It is my sad duty as officer in command of the London Scottish to express to you the intense grief which is felt by all ranks of the regiment at the death of your son, and the deep sympathy which we all feel for you. He was in the act of conducting his morning Sick Parade when a shell burst in the trench, hitting him and five others. He was hit in the back of the head and, though he was not killed at once, there was from the first little hope of saving his life. He died without recovering consciousness. He was a man whom we all admired and loved; always hard-working and efficient, and particularly cool and courageous in action. We shall find it hard indeed to replace him. He had just been recommended for reward for his conduct on 25 Sept”.

The Chaplain wrote: "Yesterday he was killed, dying the death of the brave, about 10.15 a.m..... He was brought down from the trenches and was buried in the Mazingarbe Cemetery in a separate grave, beside some other officers.... The London Scottish will erect a cross to-day... He was much esteemed by the officers and men in our battalion, and his death has been a great sorrow to us. If recent actions he had done very well and even by his brothers in the R.A.M.C. he was spoken of admirably."

Capt Claud Low wrote: "He was a tremendous fellow with a very great sense of duty. He would go anywhere and do anything for the good of the battalion. He had the confidence of every officer and man and was a true comrade. I offer you my sympathy and assure you his life was not wasted. He did a great deal for the good of others. It may seem to you that his life was thrown away at an early age; but only a young man could have done the work he did.”
Capt E M Stirling wrote: "His dressing station was always right up where it was most wanted, and he went about his work absolutely fearlessly; and many a poor chap had got him to thank for a speedy recovery from bad wounds. I saw him on the 25th, 26th and 27th Sept., the days of the first big attack. I cannot say enough of the priceless work he put in and the way he kept at it night and day. When it wasn't our men it was some other regiment. He was always at it, and so cheery. We shall all miss him terribly, both in the regiment and the mess - just one of the best. He was, as you doubtless know, a Private with us when we went out. He and Eric Wright - who also, poor fellow, died in Egypt - did the most wonderful work at Villeneuve St George last autumn, when all the wounded were coming through from the Aisne, and when dressing stations were few and far between. They saved many a man's life there, and in two cases I know of performed amputations. He got his commission as the result, and was for some months on an ambulance train, leaving that to rejoin the Scottish as a doctor. I remember someone, just before this last show, asking him if he were going back to a train when his six months were up, and he replied, 'Not as long as I can remain with the Scottish'."

He was mentioned in despatches by Sir John French (London Gazette 1 Jan 1916)

He was buried at Mazingarbe Communal cemetery in plot 106. The London Scottish also erected a memorial to him at Mazingarbe as a token of their esteem.

Probate was granted to Leonard Grant 12 Jan 1916. His effects were valued at £377 5s 2d. He was awarded the 1914 Star and British War and Victory medals.

CWGC recorded his parents address as 5 Weech Road, West Hampstead London

Sources
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsomian 1908
Probate
Times obituary
Territorial Attestation papers
TNA 2nd Lt file not found

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Epsom College Register 1855-1954</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grant, George Leonard, s. of dr. Leonard Grant of New Southgate, b. 1890, P., prefect, h. XI, Brande G.C. Pr., l. 1908, Lond. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C., killed in action 1915</td>
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OE Doctors

GEORGE LEONARD GRANT (1890-1915). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1900-1908. prefect. Brande Prize] was the son of Dr Leonard Grant, of New Southgate, Middlesex. He received his medical education at the London Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. and, in 1915, was killed in action. He was d 25 ye s.
Gray, Cecil Owen

Birth Year: 1875
Entered Epsom College: 1888
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1916-18
House: HMM?
Rank: T/Capt. R.A.M.C.

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Gray, Edward Gresham

Birth Year: 1875
Entered Epsom College: 1889
Regiment: 
House: HMM?
Rank: 

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gray, Edward Gresham, s. of dr. Edward Gray of Chiswick, b. 1875, G., prefect, l. 1894, employed by a bank, Asst. Paymaster R.N.R., sometime resident in S. Africa, brother of P. D. G. (1892), d. 1928

Grayling, Lt.-Col. Colin Edward Arthur

Birth Year: 1869
Entered Epsom College: 1913
Regiment: S.W.B.
House: HMM?
Rank: 

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Grayling, Lt.-Col. Colin Edward Arthur, R.A.O.C., s. of A. G. (1869), b. 1901, L.S. and F., l. 1918 for R.M.C., formerly S.W.B.; Calder Mount, Garstang

Greasley, John Nigel

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: 1st Dorsetshire Regt
House: F
Rank: Sgt
Nigel, as he was known, was born on 1 March 1898 in Leicester (GRO Ref: Mar 1898 Leicester 7a 271) the only child of Joseph Greasley and his wife Adeline Rosamund nee Wykes. His parents had married in 1883 (GRO Ref: Mar 1883 Leicester 7a 334)

In the 1901 census the family was living at 9 St Peter’s Road, Leicester. Nigel’s father, Joseph, was a 57 year old surgeon, Rosamond was 36, and Nigel was 3. A cousin, Lilian M Crafts, was staying with the family and they employed a general servant.

In 1905 the family was living at Lyndhurst, 20 Upper Tichborne Street, Leicester when Nigel’s father was taken ill. He was confined to bed for about two weeks, and died on 3 Sept 1905. He had practised medicine in Melton Mowbray and Leicester for many years and was highly esteemed in the town. He left £ 7985 19s 10d

Nigel’s mother enrolled him to start at Epsom College on 3 May 1910, entering Holman House in the Lower School and he progressed to Forest House in the Upper School. He was recorded there in the 1911 census. He worked hard and improved his form position from 17th out of 24 boys in the Lower Third to fifth out of 26 in the Lower Fourth form. He served in the college OTC. He left school at Easter 1914.

In spring 1916 Nigel’s mother married Augustus Gandy at St George’s Hanover Square.

Nigel was killed in action 21 May 1918. His service papers have not survived but the 1 Dorsetshire Regiment’s war diary recorded the Battalion’s experience at the time of his death. The death of a NCO late on 20 May is most probably that of Sgt Greasley. No NCO deaths were noted in the raid on the following day.

17 May 1918. The battalion was in reserve. HQ, A and C Companies bathed at RANSART, B and D Companies practised for raid.
Casualties: 1 man wounded.
(Ransart is about 6 miles SW of Arras)


19 May Battalion in line. Little shelling. No casualties.

20 May. Battalion in line. Reserve line shelled between 11pm and 12 midnight. Casualties: 1 NCO killed, (probably Nigel) 3 OR wounded.

21 May. Battalion in line. Raid carried out on HAMELINCOURT at 3am, successful. 4 prisoners taken and objective gained. Casualties heavy: 17 officers and 79 OR owing to our barrage falling short. A great number of casualties caused by our own artillery. It is to be noted that though the barrage fell on the raiding party before it had left the starting point, the raid was carried through successfully. Commended on [their] gallantry. Raid by Band D Company.”

Hamelincourt is between Arras and Bapaume, France.

Nigel is buried in Berles New Military Cemetery, grave I C 12. This cemetery is 15km south west of Arras, France. His mother requested the words “Leaving his white unbroken glory” to be inscribed on his headstone. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals

At the time of his death his mother was living at 16 Talbot Hill Road Bournemouth

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom Register
Epsom Yellow Book
Soldiers died
War Diary WO95/2392/1
Green, Gershom Withers, brother of P. W. G. (1901), b. 1890, C., l. 1905, farmer and afterwards civil servant, Commonwealth Govt., Cpl. Australian Forces 1914-19; 30 Parliament Street, Hobart

Green, Philip Withers, s. of dr. A. W. Green of Doctors’ Commons, b. 1888, C., l. 1906, St. Mary’s Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Capt. R.A.M.C. (T.F.) 1914-19 and 1941-5, brother of G. W. G. (1903), and father of P. W. G. (1940), d. 1949

**Greenway, Maj. Gen Charles William**

*Major General Charles William Greenway C.B., C.B.E.*

1900 –

Born 02.10.1900

Entered by his father Dr Charles M Greenway of High St., Plumstead, SE London he went to the College in September 1911 in Holman House in the lower School later moving on to Granville in 1912. His talents seem to have been on the sports field rather than in the classroom and he played for the rugby XV and won the Macfarlane Cup. He moved on from the 6th form in 1918 to Guy’s Hospital qualifying MRCS., LRCP in due course.

**Unlikely to have served in WW1**

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


OE Doctors
MAJOR-GENERAL CHARLES WILLIAM GREENWAY (1900-1968). C.B., C.B.E., A.M.S., Q.H.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1911-1918. Rugby XV. MacFarlane Cup] was the son of Dr C. M. Greenway, of Plumstead, South London. He received his medical education at Guy's Hospital. He joined the R.A.M.C. immediately after qualification and was posted to India where he remained until shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War. When the War broke out he went to France with the Expeditionary Force and later took part in the evacuation of Dunkirk. From 1940 until 1942 he was in command of 153 Field Ambulance and was later appointed officer commanding the Military Hospital at Moretonhampstead in Devon. In 1944 he returned to India, at first as officer commanding the 16 Convalescent Depot, then as officer commanding the British Military Hospital in Bangalore. In 1947 he returned to Britain and was appointed officer in command of the Military Hospital at Colchester, before appointment as Assistant Director of Medical Services, Northumbrian District. In 1950 he was appointed Assistant Director of Medical Services in Singapore and, in 1948, as Director of Medical Services with the Far East Land Forces. He returned to England in 1953 with the rank of Major General and became Deputy Director of Medical Services, Northern Command, which post he occupied until his retirement in 1957. He was an Honorary Surgeon to H.M. the Queen (1953-1957).

Gregory-Smith, John

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regimen: Cpl. Grenadier Guards 1916-18</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1899</td>
<td>1913</td>
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Gregory-Smith, John, s. of D. Gregory-Smith, farmer, of Burgess Hill, b. 1899, W., l. 1916, farmer, Cpl. Grenadier Gds. 1916-18, d. Vancouver 1933

Grellier, Bernard

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
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<th>Regiment: Capt. R.A.M.C. (S.R.) 1914-18</th>
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<td>1886</td>
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Grellier, Bernard and his twin Norman were born on 17 October 1886 at Downside, Epsom, sons of Harley Mair Grellier (1850-1921), a surveyor and valuer. The family were of Huguenot ancestry. Harley had married first, in 1875, Alice Lavinia Taylor (1851-1876: GRO D 468) but she died, along with her new born child, fifteen months after their marriage following childbirth.1,2 The 1881 census records him as a widower, living in Lambeth with his widowed mother Ann and his brother Henry, who became a clergyman. However he was clearly a determined man who was not afraid to defy the current conventions and in 1882 he decided to live with his deceased wife’s younger sister Edith Louisa Taylor (1853-1959) and from October 1883, with the birth of their daughter at Turners Hill, Sussex, Alice Maud G (1883-1930), they went on to raise a family of 4 sons and 3 daughters. The absence of a marriage certificate is explained by the fact that the law at that time prevented them from marrying and only after almost 50 years of heated political controversy between Church and State was prejudice overcome and in 19073 marriage between a man and his deceased wife’s sister was allowed by law. When Edith died aged 106 in 1959 (GRO 5h p353: Hastings), she was possibly the oldest person in England at the time.

Three of their sons, the twins and their older brother Gordon (1885-1918), went to Epsom College and all served in the Great War, Gordon tragically being killed in action just 11 days before the Armistice. His short life is the subject of a separate memoir in this series. A younger brother, Cecil (1891-1965) served in the war in the Hampshire Regt. was awarded the Military Cross and after the war became an architect. He did not go to the College. The twins cousin Henry Harley G. served with the R.F.A. and was awarded the M.C. as a 2/Lt. in 1918, later moving to S Africa.


Bernard and Norman were identical and the obituary for Norman in the British Medical Journal neatly summarises their lives. “He and his twin brother had never been parted except during war service. They practised together in dentistry and later in radiology, shared the same interests, and had the same outlook in life. Neither was married, and they had always lived together.” As this memoir is mainly concerned with their service in the Great War their military activity will be described separately.

The three brothers who went to the College in 1897 all attended as day boys. Bernard and Norman started in the lower middle fourth form and progressed steadily up the school, Bernard on the classical side and Norman initially on the modern side later switching to classical. Bernard clearly shone more brightly academically passing his lower school certificate with a first in Latin and Greek in 1902. Norman switched back to the modern side again in 1903 and moved up to mid-way in the form listings.

After leaving Epsom in 1904 both studied dentistry at the Royal Dental Hospital qualifying L.D.S. Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1910. Bernard then enrolled at the Charing Cross Hospital and took the London Conjoint Diploma in February 19137 to qualify in medicine as well as dentistry. He was appointed as a house surgeon and casualty officer at Charing Cross after qualifying in medicine and then worked at the Royal Dental Hospital and was dental surgeon to the Royal London Police Hospital until the war intervened. Norman appears to have worked as a dentist for two years and then he also took the conjoint diploma qualifying in medicine in February 1915.

WW1 - Bernard Grellier M.C., R.A.M.C.

Bernard was commissioned as a lieutenant on probation in the R.A.M.C. in September 1914 (LG 28911 p7570) and was confirmed in that rank in December. According to his medal roll record6B he disembarked in France on 22 August 1914 with the B.E.F. and in due course was awarded the 1914 Star. He was promoted to captain in January 1915 (LG 29241 p7308). He was attached to the 19th Field Ambulance from March 1915 until August 1915 and then joined the 10th Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers as medical officer, part of the 76th Brigade in the 3rd Division.

The Battalion landed at Boulogne on 27 Sept 1915 and marched to a rest camp. The war diary listed the officers who were with the Battalion under the command of Colonel W.R.H. Beresford-Ash amongst whom was recorded “Medical Officer in charge – Captain B. Grellier R.A.M.C.”. Shortly after arrival in France they entrained for Flanders and on the 4th October they marched into billets at Bailleul. By the 10th they were 3½ miles west of Ypres “being advance battalion of 76th Bde on the Brigade being transferred from the 25th Divn. to the 3rd Divn. ----“. They were about to take part in the 1st Battle of Ypres and on the 10th moved into the trenches at Ploegstraat and Sanctuary Wood and took their first casualties. After 6 days in the front line on the 21st October they were withdrawn for rest and “at 5.30pm the Battalion in Brigade marched SW to vicinity of Eecke and went into billets in neighbouring farms”.

It was here that Bernard became involved in a matter which added to his workload in a most unpleasant way. One paragraph in the War Diary, an extract from routine orders by the General Officer Commanding 3rd Division dated 15 November 1915, gives a short summary of what occurred:

“Gallantry:-The General Officer Commanding wishes to place on record the gallantry displayed by No 15790 (C Coy.) Company Sergeant-Major Edward Fisher, 10th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who on the 3rd November 1915, closed with and arrested, a soldier who was firing his rifle indiscriminately inside a billet and who had already killed a comrade and wounded another”.

No other reference is made to the above in the War Diary. However details of the Field General Court Martial (FGCM) which followed are held at the National Archive (TNA)9 and it is clear that Bernard became very much involved. At the Court Martial Private C.W. Knight, who had been out drinking on November 3rd 1915, found himself being tried for murder. Bernard later stated in evidence what he found when he examined him shortly after the offence ‘I do not consider his mental condition was normal at that time and I consider that was due to drink’. The Sergeant-Major stated bluntly ‘In my opinion he was drunk’. However there was considerable discussion as to whether mitigating factors were involved and on 12th November a Major Gilbert-Mellor on the Adjutant General’s Staff expressed his disquiet at the verdict ‘As the evidence in this case ---- is not satisfactory’, and went on to suggest further inquiry. However little seems to have been done, the sentence was confirmed, and 3 days later Bernard had the dismal task of attending the execution after which he wrote ‘I witnessed the execution, by shooting of 15437 Private Charles William Knight of 10th Royal Welsh Fusiliers on Monday 15th Nov. 1915, and I certify that on examination of the body I found that life was extinct, death having been instantaneous’. The addition of those last four words was perhaps a humane attempt to provide some solace for his family who might later be informed of the details. As far as the military authorities were concerned a repeat of any such breakdown of discipline had to be prevented at all cost and the law had taken its course. More detail is given in a book Murderous Tommies’ by Putkowski & Dunning10 (see below).
By the 21st November the Battalion was back in action in the trenches south of Ypres with men being killed and wounded. On the 24th a shell wounded three of the RAMC stretcher bearers, which would have been a particular blow for Bernard, and one was wounded again as he was being taken on a stretcher from “D” Coy. Dressing Station. He died of wounds the following day. They were in and out of the trenches throughout December and then on 27th their Colonel was shot in the leg near Brigade HQ and taken off strength the following day. He was replaced temporarily by a Major from 1st Gordon Highlanders until a permanent replacement, Lieut. Colonel Biny, was appointed. However on 3rd March Lieut. Colonel Biny, Major Fillman together with the adjutant and a 2/Lt Hughes were all killed during actions ‘about the Bluff’ near Poperinge.

On 27th March “The Battalion was inspected at Camp ‘H’ by G.O.C. 3rd Division who congratulated all ranks on their behaviour during the recent operations at the Bluff. The G.O.C. handed ribbons to the following officers for conduct and gallantry during the recent operations. Major GR Crosfield,- Distinguished Service Order: Captain B. Grellier- The Military Cross.” Three days later Major Crosfield was wounded and a very long list of those killed or wounded throughout the month of March was recorded in the war diary.

On 30 March the citation for Bernard’s M.C. was published in the London Gazette (LG 29528 p3425) “Captain Bernard Grellier, Royal Army Medical Corps (Attached 10th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers). For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations, when attending the wounded under heavy shell fire. He helped to dig out wounded men who were buried.”

At the end of April near St Eloi the Battalion was subjected to a gas attack being “the first troops of the Division (3rd) who have been subjected to a gas attack”. The gas caused 50 casualties and 26 more occurred in the ensuing battle. A lull then occurred in the fighting before the Battle of the Somme erupted on 1st July. On the 2nd “At night the M.O. with ‘A’ & ‘D’ companies assisted at the Casualty Clearing Station”. They were in the trenches at Montauban on the 14th and 5 days later were ordered to attack Delville Wood. The battle that ensued was bloody and vicious with 4 officers and 33 OR’s being killed and 11 officers and 119 OR’s wounded with 60 men missing. The Victoria Cross was later awarded to two soldiers of the Battalion Cpl. Joseph Davies and Pte. Albert Hill for their conspicuous gallantry on 20 July at Delville Wood.

Throughout August the Battalion was engaged in heavy fighting which went on into the autumn and winter with all ranks continuing to distinguish themselves. At the beginning of October Brigadier General RJ Kentish D.S.O. gave a farewell address to the men on being appointed to a higher command and in it he gave a summary of the awards that had been made since he took command of 76 Brigade, a record which showed the nature of the fighting they had been through during the year: - 2 V.C.’s; 1 Croix de Guerre; 2 Russian Orders of St. George for Valour; 2 D.S.O.’s; 8 M.C.’s and 62 M.M.’s. The losses they had sustained must have placed a very heavy burden on the Medical Officer and his gallant helpers.

On 22 December 1916 when the Battalion was at Louvencourt the diary records “Lieut. R. Evans RAMC attached to Battalion to take over duties of Medical Officer”. On Boxing Day “Capt B. Grellier leaves for duty at Base Hospital”.

From 1917 until he relinquished his commission in 1920 he was sent to work alongside the Indian Army Medical Service on the North West Frontier of India in the Malakand District.2 Bernard’s move from the trenches of Flanders to the North West Frontier of India must have seemed to him like ‘moving out of the frying pan into the fire’. In 1893 Sir Mortimer Durand, an English diplomat, had drawn a line on the map of the region which aimed to establish a new border between British India and Afghanistan. It divided tribal territories of peoples renowned for their warlike nature who quite reasonably resented the presence of foreign troops on land they regarded as theirs. The border became a battleground for numerous ferocious clashes between the border tribesman and the British army and it remains one of the most politically unstable territories to this day. In 1897 the 2nd Anglo-Afghan war had broken out and led to the establishment of the Malakand Field Force led by General Sir Bindon Blood, tasked with quelling the revolt of the frontier tribesmen. Winston Churchill who participated in this campaign described the fighting in his first book The Story of the Malakand Field Force 1898 and again more briefly in his book My Early Life published in 1930. By the time Bernard arrived in the District of Mardan and Malakand in 1917 a large garrison of British troops were stationed there and between May and August 1919 what became known as the third Anglo-Afghan war was fought. In due course Bernard was awarded the Indian General Service Medal with the Afghanistan NWF 1919 clasp for his service in India together with the 1914 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.6B In April 1920 he resigned his commission and returned to civilian life (LG 31916 p5901) retaining the rank of Captain.
Norman was commissioned as a T/Lieut. On 21st April 1915 in the R.A.M.C. (LG 29158 p4521). He went to France in June 19156N and it seems likely that having just qualified in medicine he was posted to a base hospital initially to gain experience before being attached to the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards in the 3rd Guards Brigade, an elite unit of the regular army. He was promoted to T/Capt. effective from 21 April 1916 (LG 29573 p4555).

The 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards left England for France landing at Havre at 11pm on the 16th August 1915.11 They entrained on the 18th for St Omer before marching to billets at Blendecques. After initial training routines they arrived at Vermelles at the front line on 26th September and were warned that they were to lead an attack on Hill 70.

On the 11th October they came under shell fire “The Medical Officer Lieut. E.R. Brunton being killed by a shell”. The following night a new M.O. arrived, Capt. W. Hilton Parry RAMC, and he remained with the Bn. until mid-1916. On 18th June Capt.N.Grellier is recorded for the first time as being attached to the Bn. as Medical Officer.11 He was to stay with them until after the Bn. was almost wiped out in the Battle of Lys in April 1918.

Shortly after Norman joined the 4th Battalion the Somme offensive opened and by August 1916 they were fighting in Flanders on the Canal Bank near Ypres. They were constantly in and out of the front line trenches, suffering casualties throughout the next year, taking part in the operations on the Ancre after the Somme offensive had closed. In his despatches in December 1916 and May 1917 Field Marshall Haig paid tribute to the heavy burden which had fallen on the medical services throughout the year. In May 1917 Norman was mentioned in despatches (LG 30101 p5321).

In May 1917 Lt. Col. Viscount Gort M.V.O. M.C., later Field Marshall, took over command of the battalion. After a short period in reserve they carried out a successful raid on the 18th-19th July, killing many of the enemy, on what was known as the ‘Baboon Trench’ in the German lines. They lost 12 men killed, 4 who died of wounds and 76 wounded by fighting or gas poisoning.

Two weeks later the Battalion took part in what was possibly the bloodiest campaign in the history of the British Army. The Third Battle of Ypres, Passchendaele as it became known, after the small village which gave its name to the series of battles fought over the desolate mud filled swamp which characterised the landscape east of Ypres. The battles took place between 31st July 1917 and 6th of November that year when the ruined village finally fell to the Canadians.13 The Battalion with the Guards Division was part of XIV Corps in General Gough’s 5th Army and was immediately involved on the first day of the Battle when they attacked the Pilckem Ridge on the east bank of the Canal opposite Boesinghe. The 4th Battalion left its rear reserve area the Forest Area bivouac camp at 9pm on the evening of 30/31 July and formed up near the Canal Bank. At 3.50am the artillery barrage opened up south of the Guards Division and then at 4.28 began to lift. At this time the 4th Bn. began to cross the Canal and by 4.45 they were across. At 7.35 the CO reported that Abri Wood, their objective, was captured and at 8.30 Battalion HQ was moved into Abri Farm. The line was consolidated by wiring parties and finally at 8pm on 1st August the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards relieved 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards who then moved back to the Forest Area bivouac camp where it arrived at 1am.

During the fighting two officers were wounded one of whom was Lt. Col. Lord Gort who it seems only agreed to go to the Casualty Clearing Station sometime after the battle was over. Fifteen OR’s were killed and 4 later died of wounds, 95 were wounded, 1 gassed and 5 posted missing. On the 15th August 1917 the Bn. diary11 records the award of the Military Cross to two acting captains and a 2/Lt of the 4th Bn. Grenadier Guards and to “Captain N. Grellier RAMC (attached)”. The award was announced in the LG in October 1917 and the citation published later in January 1918 (LG 30466 p610):-

“T/Capt. Norman Grellier RAMC. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. A shell came through the door of his aid post, killing his sergeant and several other men; he himself was knocked over and severely shaken by the concussion. In spite of this, however, he carried on his work unaided, and remained at his post under continual hostile shell fire, setting a magnificent example of devotion and fearlessness.”
On 1st December 1917 the battalion war diary records in fine detail the last major engagement of the year in which the 4th Battalion took part, the attack on Gonnelieu where Capt. George Henry Paton was awarded a posthumous V.C.. During the battle there were a number of casualties including the C.O. Lord Gort and from then on the second in command, Major W.S. Pilcher DSO took over command of the 4th Battalion. After he recovered from his wounds Lord Gort took command of the 1st Battalion and was to be awarded two bars to his DSO and in September 1918 the V.C. following the Battle of the Canal du Nord.

A short paragraph towards the end of the report on Gonnelieu encapsulates the indomitable spirit of the Guards in a short paragraph:-

“The Battalion in five months, had taken part in four battles, apart from ordinary tours of trench duty – it had marched many miles from the Ypres salient to the scene of the Cambrai fighting – no two nights since November 17th had been spent in the same billet – for many days it had bivouacked in the open or in tents under continuous days of hard frost. The casualties suffered during this period were 14 officers and about 300 other ranks, and yet, when the remnant bivouacked in the open at Gouzeaucourt Wood in a temperature of 15° of frost, their moral was never higher, nor the spirit of the men more cheerful.”

In January 1918 the battalion was in the Arras area and in February left the 3rd Guards Brigade to join the 4th under the command of Brigadier General Lord Ardee, C.B. as part of the 31st Guards Divn. It took part in the battles at the end of March and mid-April which occurred as part of the final attempt by Ludendorff to break through to the Channel ports the most notable engagement for the brigade being that of 12th–14th April, which became known as the Battle of Lys. The German 35th Division and one brigade of the 25th attempted to take the Hazebrouk railhead and launched a furious onslaught in that region. Initially they forced the allied line back until they had the misfortune to cross swords with the 4th Guards Brigade who had been brought up to stabilise the line. The battle which took place was to go down as one of the greatest in the history of the Guards and is well summarised in a letter to the Brigade, quoted in the war diary from the G.O.C. XV Corps, Lieut. General Beauvoir de Lisle, after the battle.

“The record of the glorious stand against overwhelming odds made by the 4th Guards Brigade is of exceptional interest. The history of the British Army can record nothing finer than the story of the action of the 4th Guards Brigade on the 12th and 13th April 1918”

The 4th Battalion war diary records the names of the officers who participated in the action, six of whom died including Lieut. (A/Capt.) Thomas Tannatt Pryce MC who was awarded a posthumous V.C., the first member of the stock exchange to be awarded the V.C. in the War. Another participant whose name is listed was the “Medical Officer Captain N. Grellier MC., RAMC”. The Battalion casualty list following the battle in terms of killed, wounded and missing, can only be described as horrendous even by the standards of the Great War. “One company of 250 Grenadiers was completely destroyed, another was reduced to 20 men and a third to only six”. The figures give insight into the pressure which would have been brought upon the medical services during the fighting. The strategic rail junction of Hazebrouck was not captured by the Germans.

Following the battle the remnants of what remained of the 4th Battalion moved back to GHQ Reserve to a camp in the grounds of the Chateau at Saulty later moving on in July to Criel sur Plage overlooking the sea. Time was spent in rebuilding the battalion, under the command of Lt.Colonel Pilcher, and training replacements for those who had been lost or wounded. However Norman appears to have left the battalion when it moved into reserve and he is not mentioned again in the war diary after the Battle of Lys. He moved away to a post with the occupying forces at Cologne at the end of the war and relinquished his commission on the 3rd May 1919 retaining the rank of Captain (LG 31392 p7387). In addition to his M.C. he received the 1915 Star with emblems as well as the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

For more detail of the lives of these two brothers after the Great War the reader is referred to the very informative paper by Dr Ian Kenney in The Journal of Medical Biography which was published in 2008 and which gives much information on their characters and interests. Only a short summary of this part of their lives will be given here, this record being principally concerned with their early life at Epsom College and in the 1914-18 War.

After the Great War the twin brothers decided to take up radiology and both took the Diploma in Medical Radiology, Bernard in 19224B and Norman in 1924.4N In 1926 they settled at St. Leonards-on-Sea and were appointed radiologists at The Royal East Sussex, Hastings and the Eversfield Chest Hospital. Both were Chairman of the Hastings Division of the BMA before WW2 as well as participating in many other local medical activities. One of their interests was flying which nearly ended in their premature death. I am grateful to Myriam Nelmes the librarian at Hastings Hospital and her assistant Michelle Collins for providing me with unpublished information on the brothers held in the library. A note on the Grellier’s by the writer Dr C.A. Birch states:-
“Their hobby was flying light aeroplanes from Lympne. They never flew together except on one occasion when two planes were not available and they had an accident. Their injuries made identification easy but on recovery they resumed their very close resemblance except for the fact that Norman had a scar on his face.” It would appear that their experiences in the trenches in WWI did nothing to lessen their appetite for excitement and danger.

At the start of WW2 they were 54 years old but this did not stop them applying for military service again. Their application was accepted and they were both enrolled as lieutenants in the RAMC, Bernard in January 1941 (LG 35077 p964) and Norman in July 1941 (LG 35236 p4500) soon being promoted to captain again. Bernard was initially sent to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley and in 1942 to the 24th (London) British General Hospital2. Norman went to Colchester Hospital and later Stranmellis Hospital, Belfast. When this closed in 1944 he moved to Bangor in County Down. In 1944 both were sent to Palestine were Bernard was sent to 91st BGH in Palestine. Norman was sent back to England shortly after arriving in Egypt with a penetrating ulcer of the foot. For the last part of the war he was sent to Kirkwall Military Hospital in Orkney2. They were both demobilised as T/Major’s in mid-1945.

Sadly they were finally to be parted when Norman died on 27 May 1949 at the Royal East Sussex Hospital (GRO 5h p310: Hastings). They had remained in their house at 21 West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea in their retirement. Bernard lived on at West Hill until he died in Pembury Hospital, Kent on the 10 September 1957 (GRO 5b p802: Tonbridge). His obituary in the BMJ sheds a little insight on their characters. “He and his brother, who were the kindest of men, ---had much in common, including an interest in model engineering. Together they did much good work in Hastings in an unobtrusive way4B.” Their war records make it clear that they were also men of great courage and determination who did not hesitate to step forward when their skills were needed by their country in times of war.

Sources:
1Ancestry
2 The Grellier Twins --- by Ian J Kenney: J Med Biog. 2007 53-58
3 Deceased Wife’s Marriage Act 1907: 7 Edw.7c 47. (Google)
4N Norman Grellier. Obituary: BMJ; 18 Jun 1949 p1099
5Epsom College Registers & Yellow Books
6B Medal Roll Index.
6N Medal Roll Index
7 The Medical Register 1919
8 TNA. WO 95/1436/2. War Diary: 10th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
9 TNA. WO 71/437. Knight, C.W. No. 15437: Offence: Murder
11 TNA WO 95/1223/2 Aug 1915 - Jan 1918. 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards; War Diary
12 TNA WO 95/1226/2 1918 Feb-Oct. 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards; War Diary
13 The Salient, Ypres 1914-1918 by Alan Palmer 2007: Constable; p188.
14The Medical History of Hastings; Dr C.A. Birch: 1980; Rosewell Library, Hastings PGMC.
LG – London Gazette
GRO – General Registry Office

Norman Grellier M.C. “a magnificent example of devotion and fearlessness”.

The three Grellier brothers went to Epsom (W.1897) and all three served in WWI. The eldest, Gordon, a surveyor, was tragically killed in action just 11 days before the Armistice but his twin brothers, Norman and Bernard, who had both qualified in dentistry and then medicine after leaving Epsom, both served in the R.A.M.C.

Norman was to participate in some of the heaviest fighting of the war. He was commissioned as a T/Lieut. in April 1915 and went to France in June that year. He was posted to a base hospital initially and then

Charles S Gallannaugh July 2017
promoted to T/Capt. in April 1916 before being attached to the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards in the 3rd Guards Brigade in June 1916. He was to stay with them until after the battalion was almost wiped out at the Battle of Lys in April 1918 participating in battles of the Somme, Ancre, Paschendaele and Gonnelieu. In May 1917 he was mentioned in despatches.

In May 1917 Lt. Col. Viscount Gort, later Field Marshal, took over command of the Battalion. Soon after it fought at Passchendaele being involved on the first day of the Battle when the Battalion attacked the Pilcham Ridge on the east bank of the Canal opposite Boesinge. In August 1917 Norman won the military Cross, the citation reading: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack. A shell came through the door of his aid post, killing his sergeant and several other men; he himself was knocked over and severely shaken by the concussion. In spite of this, however, he carried on his work unaided, and remained at his post under continual hostile shell fire, setting a magnificent example of devotion and fearlessness.”

In December 1917 the Battalion attacked at Gonnelieu and then took part in the Ludendorff offensive. In February 1918 they left the 3rd Guards Brigade for the 4th, part of the 31st Guards Division, taking part on 12th–13th April in the Battle of Lys. The Germans attempted to take the Hazebrouck railhead and launched a furious onslaught. The battle was later described by the G.O.C. XV Corps, Lieut. General Beauvoir de Lisle. “The record of the glorious stand against overwhelming odds made by the 4th Guards Brigade is of exceptional interest. The history of the British Army can record nothing finer than the story of the action of the 4th Guards Brigade on the 12th and 13th April 1918”

The Battalion War Diary records names of the officers, including Norman, who participated in that action. “One company of 250 Grenadiers was completely destroyed, another was reduced to 20 men and a third to only six.” Hazebrouck was not captured by the Germans.

The remnants of what remained of the 4th Battalion moved into reserve. However Norman left the battalion and joined the occupying forces at Cologne relinquishing his commission in 1919. He and his twin brother became radiologists in Hastings both serving again in WW2.

**Shot at Dawn**

Today these three words evoke a sense of horror, even outrage, at the thought of what happened to those who faced with the daily onslaught of death and destruction around them finally broke under the strain. To think in that way however fails to appreciate the climate of the time and the problems for those with only rudimentary understanding of what became known as shell shock, or today traumatic stress disorder, who were faced with maintaining discipline in the ranks under their command.

However not all those shot at dawn were suffering from shell shock. Murder by men under great pressure with easy access to firearms was not unknown. At least two Epsomians found themselves dealing with the aftermath of such events as they fought in Flanders.

In December 1915 Lieut. Colonel Frank Baigrie Lord D.S.O. (Granville 1891-93) landed in France and on the 18th December took command of the 24th Divisional Train A.S.C. They were soon at Busseboom east of Ypres. There on 11th February 1916 a soldier who had been drinking ran amok with a rifle and whilst intending to shoot a C.S.M. Bagshaw, against whom he held a grudge, shot a sergeant by mistake. Lord was responsible for setting up a Field General Court Martial (FGCM) and after Driver Moore had been found guilty of murder organising his execution and its aftermath. Thus a soldier progressed within 15 days from serving as a member of the B.E.F., fighting the enemy on behalf of his country, to being shot at dawn by members of his own Company for murder of a fellow soldier.

Capt. Bernard Grellier M.C. (Wilson 1897-1904) Medical Officer i/c 10th Royal Welch Fusiliers in Flanders had found himself in a similar situation in November 1915. At a FGCM a soldier who was firing his rifle indiscriminately inside a billet, who killed a comrade and wounded another, was tried for murder. Evidence suggested he had been drinking although mitigating factors were noted and a Major on the Adjutant General’s Staff expressed his disquiet at the verdict ‘As the evidence in this case ---- is not satisfactory’. However the soldier was found guilty and sentenced to death. Bernard Grellier had the depressing task of attending the execution on 15th November certifying that ‘--- on examination of the body I found that life was extinct, death having been instantaneous’. The addition of those last four words was perhaps an attempt to provide some solace for his family who might later be informed of the details. As far as the military authorities were concerned a repeat of any such breakdown of discipline had to be prevented at all cost and the law had taken its course.

The stress these soldiers were under, easy access to firearms, the availability of alcohol and lack of premeditation were clearly factors profoundly influencing these events. The likelihood of such verdicts
being reached today without such mitigating circumstances being considered fully would, one can only hope, be unlikely.

Grellier Twins on Chapel Steps, Epsom College

Grellier, Gordon Harley

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Grellier, Gordon Harley

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<tr>
<th>Died</th>
<th>31/10/18</th>
<th>aged 33</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>51st Siege Bty, RGA</th>
<th>Buried</th>
<th>Poix-du-nord, France</th>
<th>Reference:</th>
<th>P2.RB.G22.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Grellier, Gordon Harley, s. of H. M. Grellier, surveyor, of Epsom, b. 1885, D.B., l. 1902, surveyor, T/2nd Lt. R.G.A., killed in action 1918

http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WarMemorialsSurnamesG.html#GrellierGH

Gordon was born on 16 March 1885 (GRO reference: June 1885 Epsom 2a 16) at Downside, Epsom, the eldest son of Mr Harley Mair Grellier and his wife Edith Louisa. His birth was announced in the Times. n 1891 the family lived at Downside, St Martin’s Road, Epsom. Harley Grellier was a 40 year old surveyor. His wife, Edith Louisa, was 38. Their eldest child, Alice Maud was 7 years old and had been born in the little village of Worth in Sussex. Gordon was 6, Norman and Bernard, identical twins, were 4, Florence was 2 and Cecil was 7 months old. Grandmother, Ann Grellier aged 76 also lived with them and they employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid. 1 Alice was not at home but the other children and grandmother Ann were still living with Harley and Edith at Downside, Epsom. Another daughter, Eva, had been born. Harley was still a surveyor. No servants were recorded living in the house.  

**G N HARLEY GRELLIER AND HIS SIBLINGS**  
**Name Born** - Died Notes Alice Maud Born: 1883 Turners Hill Died: 1930 Epsom  
**Age Born:** 16 March 1885 Epsom Baptised 8 April 1885 Died: 31 October 1918 France Surveyor & estate agent  
**Norman Born:** 1886 Epsom Baptised 4 December 1886 Dentist & medical student Awarded a MC Bernard Born: 1886 Epsom Baptised 4 December 1886 Dentist & medical student Awarded a MC Florence Marianne Born: 1888 Epsom Baptised 24 November 1888 Married William Vincent, KIA 26 March 1917 Palestine Cecil Born: 1890 Epsom Baptised 2 September 1890 Architectural student Awarded 'White Eagle of Servia' Eva Mary Born: 1892 Epsom Baptised 9 May 1892 Died: 1945 Epsom In am i ived at St Martin's craft, Epsom. Gordon’s father was a surveyor and estate agent, as was Gordon. His mother stated that she had given birth to seven children and that they were all still living. Seventeen year old Randall Evelyn Hunt was a visitor, and the family employed two servants, a cook and a housemaid. Gordon and his twin others attended Epsom College for five years, where he served in the school Cadet Corps from 1900. In 1905 he went to Wye Agricultural College until 1908 where he was awarded the diploma and Surveying prize. He became a pupil of Tristram Eve of JR Eve and Sons, Surveyors, after which he became a partner in the firm of Messrs Grelliers, surveyors in Queen Anne’s gate, London. He was a professional associate of and qualified for a fellowship of the Surveyors Institute Great George St London. He was living at 6 Queen Anne’s Gate, London. Before the war he had joined the Inns of Court OTC on 10 March 1909 as Private 354, but he had to retire in May 1910 for a business engagement. He signed up for the duration of the war on 4 April 1917, enlisting at Kingston-upon-Thames, and was appointed Gunner no 625471 in the HAC Siege Battery on 15 November 1916. His enrolment papers record that he was 31 yrs and 8mths old, 5ft 7 7/8ins in height, 36 ins chest with 3½in expansion, he weighed 138lbs, had a vaccination mark on his left arm and had good physical development. Although he had married to Melicent Hamley, daughter of Mr and Mrs ET Hamley of Sunning Hill Epsom at St Martin’s church, Epsom on 4 July 1912 (GRO reference: Sep 1912 Epsom 2a 41) and supplied her name as his next of kin, he said that her whereabouts were unknown. They did not have any children. Whilst in the HAC he served at me: 15 November 1916 - 309 Siege Battery as a gunner 9 December 1916 - 30/A Depot 31 Mar 1917 309(Res HAC Siege Battery 4 April 1917-2 June 1916 - Reinforcing Siege Depot at Stowlangtoft, Catterick 26 October 1917 - Trobridge In December 1916 he had three vaccinations. Early in 1917 he experienced trouble with his right knee and spent from 11 March to 15 May 1917 in Horton War hospital. An x-ray on 17 March showed contusion. Whilst in hospital the tragic news arrived that 2nd Lt William Morris Vincent, husband of his sister Florence, had been killed. William is also remembered on the Ashley Road memorial. He obtained a commission 2nd Lieutenant in the RGA serving in the 51st Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery and was formally discharged as a gunner on 17 Mar 1918. He attended the Royal Artillery Cadet School. On 24 October 1918 he embarked at Southampton, arriving the next day at Havre. He went up to the front, east of Cambrai on 30 October but was killed instantly by a shell splinter the next day, only hours after his arrival. He was 33. He was buried, in Plot II 22 Poix du Nord Communal cemetery extension, France. He is listed on the Ashley Road, Epsom, the Epsom College and St Martin’s Epsom Memorials, and also on the Wye SE Agricultural College War Memorial. Appears in Agricola Magazine Vol 3. To be investigated Gordon’s effects included: wallet, purse chain, wrist watch, pocket torch, pocket knife, cigarette case, cigarette holder, officer’s advance book, cheque book, army book 439, a pair of gloves, pair of shoes, 4 large buttons, 6 small buttons, khaki handkerchief, tie pin pencils and keys. The probate for his estate had been granted to his father but unfortunately he died of pneumonia at St Martins Croft Epsom on 19 November 1921 and his brothers had to administer the probate for their father and the remaining estate of Gordon. His estate was valued at £2429. It is interesting to note that his twin brothers, Norman and Bernard, joined the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) in 1915, and were each awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. His youngest brother, Cecil, also served and was wounded at Suvla Bay. He received the White Eagle of Servia for his part in the fighting of Autumn 1915 in Servia. Gordon’s father, Charley, was he Chairman of St Martin’s Church War Memorial Committee, and lived to see the memorial unveiled on Sunday 12 June 1921 although died later in the year at the age of 70. The St Martin’s Church Roll of Honour states that: GORDON HARLEY GRELLIER, was killed in action on 31st October 1918 at Poix du Nord where he was buried. His home during nearly the whole of his life was in Epsom where he was born and at school. He was a Sidesman of this church. Gordon was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory medal. The CWGC states th Gordon wa the son of Harley M r Grellier and Edith Louisa Grellier of St Martin’s Croft, Epsom.
Griffiths, Jocelyn Edward

Birth Year: 1896  
Entered Epsom College: 1910  
Regiment: N.Z. Forces. Killed in action 1917  
Rank: L/Cpl

Griffiths, Jocelyn Edward  
Died: 13/06/17  aged 20  
Unit: 3 Bn, CBury Reg NZEF  
Buried: Strand Mil Cemetery, Belgium  
Reference: P4.RE.G10

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield
Jocelyn was born on 9 September 1896 at Wonston, Micheldever in Hampshire, the son of Dr William Arthur and Maria nee Page. (GRO Ref: Dec 1896 Winchester 2c 117). His parents had married in the summer of 1894. NB: his mother is recorded as Marian Annette Page.

In the 1901 census the family was living in Wonston. Jocelyn was 4 years old. His father was a 36 year old medical practitioner. His mother was also 36. He had an older brother Geoffrey aged 5. The family employed a cook and a housemaid.

Jocelyn followed his brother Geoffrey to Epsom College (1909-1911). He entered Propert House in the Upper School on 3 May 1910. He was recorded there in the 1911 census and left in July 1912. He came 7th out of 20 boys in the Modern Middle I form in 1911 and 9th out of 22 pupils in the Modern Fifth form the following year when he also attained his School Certificate. He also served 2½ years in the college’s OTC.

The family was still living in Wonston in 1911 but moved to Hastings, Hawkes Bay, Otaki, New Zealand where Jocelyn was employed fruit farming for F Smith at Marton. Jocelyn enlisted in August 1916. He may have lied about his age because his date of birth is recorded as 9 July 1896. At his medical on 19 August he was 5ft 10½ins tall, weighed 158 lbs, had a 36 inch chest which expanded to 39½ inches and had a good physical development. He had a fair complexion, with dark brown hair and blue eyes. He had good vision and hearing, and had a scar on his right side from a hernia operation. He was posted to F Company on 21 August 1916. On 27 October 1916 he was admitted to hospital at Featherston Camp suffering from Measles, and remained there until he was discharged on 10 November. He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 16 December.

He embarked in Wellington, New Zealand on 30 December 1916 along with the 14th Reinforcements 2nd Battalion F Company on HMNZT72 Athenic which arrived in Plymouth on 3 January 1917. This was one of three vessels bringing nearly 2000 reinforcements to the NZ expeditionary force. The men then marched to the New Zealand Reserve Group and on to the New Zealand Company Depot. He was taken on the strength of 3 bn at Codford 25 May 1917. For whatever reason Joselyn went absent without leave from 6.30 pm on 25 May 1917 until 6pm the following day which cost him 14 days pay. They left for France on 28 May 1917.

He had been at the front for only a week, when during the battle of Messines a shell burst just over the dug out and killed all those inside, including Jocelyn.

He is buried in Strand Military Cemetery Ploegsteert Wood Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium grave IV E 10. The cemetery is 2½ miles SSW of Messines. Joselyn is remembered on the Auckland War Memorial Museum Tamaki Paenga Hira. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his mother at the Otaki Railway Post Office.

Sources:
Census returns 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom College register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
NZ Virtual War memorial.
NZ army service papers.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Jocelyn Griffiths

Griffiths, John Alban Kendall

<table>
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<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18</td>
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Decorations: HMM? □

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Griffiths, John Alban Kendall (1872- ? ).
Epsom College: 1885-1890
JOHN ALBAN KENDALL GRIFFITHS (born 1872). M.B. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1885-1890] was the son of Dr W. H. Griffiths, of Hinckley, Leicestershire. He received his medical education at University College Hospital, and went into general practice at Knighton, Radnorshire, where he was also Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Knighton District of the Knighton Union. He was also Medical Officer of Health for Knighton and Teme R.D.C. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918), in

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College: 1896-1899
JAMES GRIMOLDBY (born 1882). L.M.S.S.A. [Epsom College 1896-1899] was the son of Dr G. H. Grimoldby, of Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and brother of Dr James Grimoldby [Epsom College 1896-1899]. He received his medical education at Edinburgh University, and went into general practice at Bognor Regis, Sussex. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Navy Grand Fleet in the Dardanelles (1915-1918).

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Gripper, Col. Geoffrey Dowson


OE Doctors
Gripper, Colonel Geoffrey Dowson (1891-?).
Epsom College: 1905-1910
COLONEL GEOFFREY DOWSON GRIPPER (born 1891). R.A.M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1905-1910. prefect. Rugby XV. Cricket XI] was the son of Dr Walter Gripper, of Wallington, Surrey. He received his medical education at Guy’s Hospital. He served as a Colonel in the R.A.M.C. and during the First World War was mentioned in despatches. No further details found.

Gripper, Thomas Joseph
Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Capt. E. Surrey Regt. 1914-18

Grogono, Jonathan
Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Grose, John Wellington
Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1912

Gross, Arthur George Charles

Birth Year: 1899 Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: Pte R.A.S.C. Died on service in World War 1

Gross, Arthur George Charles Air Mechanic 3rd class 122646

Died 18/06/18 aged 19
Buried Boyton, Suffolk
Reference: Vic and Vestry

Arthur was born in Orlestone, Kent on 27 April 1899 (GRO Ref: June 1899 E Ashford 2a 873) the son of Charles Frederick Gross and his wife Dorothy Lucy nee Harker. His parents had married in 1895 (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Plomesgate 4a 1768). In 1901 the family was living at Willow Cottage, Orlestone, East Ashford, Kent. His father was a 31 year old general medical practitioner and surgeon, his mother was 28. Arthur, aged 1, had an older sister Bertha aged 4. The family employed 1 servant. In the 1911 census, eleven year old Arthur was a boarder at St Felix School, Felixstowe, Suffolk. His family was living in an 11 roomed house in Lime Tree Terrace, Wickham Market, Suffolk. Arthur’s four siblings were living at home with his parents: Bertha Catherine aged 14, Godfrey James 9, Dorothy Lucy 7 and Elizabeth 4. The family employed a housemaid and a cook. Arthur was educated initially at St Felix School, Felixstowe, but his father enrolled him to enter Epsom College, Granville House on 19 September 1912 having won a Council Exhibition. He followed this up by winning a Senior Scholarship in 1915 and throughout his time at Epsom was a high achiever academically, usually being in the top three for his form. In 1913 he won the General Knowledge prize and had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster, and in 1914 he was awarded the form prize for coming top out of 25 boys in Shell Form. He also attained his Lower School Certificate that year with first class passes in latin, maths and divinity. The following year he passed his School Certificate. He had defective vision which prevented him playing games, much to his regret, so he was less prominent in athletic life at school. He was a particularly conscientious prefect. His brother Godfrey joined him at Epsom in 1916. In 1917 Arthur won an open exhibition for Science at Clare College Cambridge to read Mathematics and Science and left school at Christmas 1917. The Royal Navy tried to engage him to undertake scientific work for them for which he would have been very well suited but he chose to join the Royal Air Force in 28 Jan 1918 as an Air Mechanic 3rd Class, the equivalent of a private in the army. He was Motor Transport driver by trade and training at the armament school at Uxbridge. He contracted a disease and died after being unconscious for three weeks. “Unaffected and thoughtful with a real love of science under a shy and retiring manner he veiled a loyal heart, a capacity for friendship and a steady sense of duty not unrelieved by a vein of humorous observation. He developed in resourcefulness and character and was generally happy as a soldier, He seemed more robust in every way then when he had been at school..” (Epsomian).

He is buried at Boyton St Andrew Suffolk and recorded on the war memorial there. His death is also recorded at Uxbridge.

At the time of his death, his parents were living in Wickham Market, Suffolk.

Sources
Census1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom register manuscript and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Epsomian July 18
Free BMD
TNA AIR 79/1097/122646 RAF Muster Roll

Elizabeth Manterfield

Gross, Capt. Geoffrey Yates

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Decorations:
GROSS Geoffrey Yates, Captain, 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, killed in action, 9th April 1916.

Geoffrey was born in 1890 at the St Saviours Union Infirmary, East Dulwich Grove, Camberwell (GRO Ref: Sep 1890 Camberwell 1d 812a), the son of Charles Gross and his wife, Constance nee Yates. His father was a doctor at the Infirmary. Geoffrey was baptised on 18 Jan 1891 at St John the Evangelist, East Dulwich.

The family was recorded living at the Infirmary in the 1891 census. Charles was a 42 year old surgeon. Constance was 41. Geoffrey was 7 months old and had a 2 year old brother Charles. Sophia Yates, 42, and a medical student, Wilson Ranson, were visiting the family. They also employed a servant, a cook and a nurserymaid.

In 1898 Geoffrey’s parents applied for places for their sons at Epsom College. His father had been medical superintendent of St Saviour’s Infirmary for 13 years and then practised as a barrister at Elm Court Middle Temple and at 112 Westbourne Grove. He had become totally incapacitated through general paralysis. His wife and children had to live on a temporary allowance provided by a relation when they were not staying with friends. Charles junior was awarded a Foundation Scholarship and Geoffrey was given a Council Exhibition. He was in Carr House from May 1904 until July 1909. Up to 10 of these exhibitions could be awarded to deserving cases which reduced their fees to £36 15s pa. Geoffrey’s father had died in Tonbridge on 26 Aug 1899 leaving an estate valued at only £797 10s. Geoffrey won the Sterry Divinity Prize, a handsome bible. This could be awarded by the masters to any boy who had not won another literary prize but had achieved an “honourable position in the Divinity exam and was deserving for uprightness, conscientiousness, loyalty and truthfulness.” He was a sergeant in the OTC and passed his Certificate A in 1909. He was also Captain of the Shooting VIII in 1909 and played in the Rugby first XV in 1908-09.

He came 9th out 17 boys in the Middle Fourth form in 1905, bottom of 24 boys in Shell in 1906 so he retook the year and came 11 out of 24 in 1907. In 1908 he achieved second place out 20 boys in the Lower Fifth form. He was made a sub-prefect in 1909 and came seventh out of 11 boys in the Upper Fifth. He attained his Higher School certificate in 1909 and qualified for London Matriculation where he got a first division pass. He was also a keen member of the Thames Rowing Club. On leaving school he was employed by CJ Browning and Co Ltd.

On 5 Nov 1909 he applied to serve four years in the Territorial Force. He was living at 11 Dowe Terrace Richmond Hill Surrey. He was 19 years old, 5ft 11½ins tall, had a 35ins chest which expanded to 37½ins. He had a good physical development and normal vision. He was found fit for the Territorial Force and joined at Lincolns Inn. He served in the OTC from 5 November 1909 until 4 November 1913. He became a private in the Inns of court OTC, where he attained his Certificate A.

In the 1911 census he was living with his widowed mother Constance, aged 55, at Downe Terrace, Richmond, Surrey where she kept a boarding house. Geoffrey was working as an insurance clerk with Lloyds.

He was embodied from the reserve on 5 August 1914. In total he had served 4 years 257 days at home (4 years 247 days in the Territorial Force and 10 days embodied service). He applied for a commission in the Special Reserve Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment. At the time he was living at 12 Princes Square, Bayswater and he was still at Lloyds.

Initially, he was employed at a base in UK instructing recruits but was then posted to France. He was hit by shrapnel in the left knee on 9 October 1914 whilst attached to the 1 Berkshire Regiment and was included as killed in action in the casualty list advertised in the Times. Captain Tindall Lucas wrote seeking verification of Gross’s death because he had served with a Lieutenant Gross who had been wounded in his left knee by a shell at Zonnebeke on 26 October 1914. This man had walked 100 yds to the trench occupied by Major Finch and Captain Tindall Lucas and they sent him off on a stretcher because he was in considerable pain. They had no reason to assume he had died. Geoffrey also sent a telegram seeking a correction, confirming that he had been slightly wounded and was recovering at the Osborne Convalescent Home for Officers in UK. The Times published a cancellation of the casualty notice on 4 Dec 1914. Whilst Geoffrey was at home on sick leave he married Mary Maud Ashburnham (GRO Ref: Dec 1914 Marylebone 1a 1497) before rejoining his regiment at Chatham.

He was with 3 bn RWKR when his promotion to Lieutenant was published on 13 April 1915, and on returning to France that month he was given command of D company in the 1st Bn. He was appointed temporary Captain in the Queen’s Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) on 1 Nov 1915 and this was made permanent on 22 December 1915.

In March 1916 1 RWKR (part of 13 Brigade, 5 Division) was holding the sector northward from Scarpe near St Laurent-Blangy to the famous “Labyrinth” just east of the road from Arras to Lens, the dividing line between subsectors being the road from Arras to Bailleul (Bailleul south west of Douai not that in the Lys valley.) The Battalion had relieved 12 Gloucesters in J2, formerly called Chanticleer, sub-sector. This sector had become relatively quiet. There were occasional heavy bombardments and some mining activity. D Coy was on the left.

There was a thick ground mist at dawn on 9 April 1916 at Arras. Geoffrey volunteered to go out to inspect the wire in front of the fire trench, taking Company Sgt Major Crossley, Lieut Dobie and a private with him. While they were doing so, the enemy...
opened rapid fire at a 35 yard range. Lieutenant Dobie fell dead into a crater, and the private was also killed. Geoffrey, who was left out wounded having been shot through the lung. CSM Crossley summoned Sergeant A Hammond (No.6348) and Lance Corporal F Liddamore (No.1036). They crept out under heavy fire to where Geoffrey lay and succeeded in dragging him back to the trench. However, he died a few minutes later before medical assistance could get to him. In the course of his rescue CSM Crossley, who had distinguished himself at Neuve Chapelle, was killed and Lance Corporal F Liddamore got a bullet through his clothing. Sergeant A Hammond was untouched. Hammond and Liddamore were awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for their actions. The four were buried the next day and lie in the Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras Pas de Calais, France. Geoffrey is in grave number I. A. 21. (Map Sheet51B G26 b.9)
All reports spoke of Geoffrey as a “fine soldier, most reliable and intelligent, a most capable officer in all ways and his influence most beneficial”.
His widow, who was living at 29, Iverna Gardens, Kensington, applied for probate on 8 July 1916. Geoffrey’s effects were valued at £45 19s 10d. He left a young wife and child. His belongings returned from the front included 2 leather cases, 1 pair of regimental badges, a book of prayers, a counterfoil, 1 wristwatch without glass, a whistle, a purse and a gold ring. A plaque and scroll was sent to his widow on 20 Feb 1919
Geoffrey’s widow was left in difficult financial circumstances after his death. During the war he had practically no income other than his army pay. He had always supported his mother who was an invalid and his widow was anxious to continue doing so and had a child to support but was badly in need of funds. The solicitor clearing Geoffrey’s estate requested the War Office to pay his gratuity could at once given the genuine need.
Geoffrey is remembered on the Lloyds memorial in London.
Sources:
Census 1891,1911
Epsomian June 1916
Gross, Charles Ranson

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Lt. Winnipeg Grenadiers and R.A.F. 1914-18
Rank
Decorations: HMM? □
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Gross, Charles Ranson, s. of dr. Charles Gross of Walworth, b. 1888, L.S. and C., l. 1905, employed by an oil company in British Columbia, T/Lt. Winnipeg Gren. and R.A.F. 1914-18, brother of G. Y. G. (1903)

Guilding, Sidney Cecil Lansdowne

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.F.A. Died on service 1918
Rank 2Lt
Decorations: HMM? □

Guilding, Sidney Cecil L
Died 04/11/18 aged 19
Unit 106th Bty, RAF
Buried Genoa, Italy
Reference: P1.RD.G49

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

GUILDING, Sidney Cecil Lansdowne, 2nd Lieut. RFA 106th Bty, 22 Bde
Died 4 November 1918

Sidney was born on 8 February 1899 in Reading (GRO reference: Mar 1899 Reading 2c 367) the son of Dr Lansdown Murray Guilding and his wife Ada Louise nee Maurice. They had married on 26 April 1898 in St Giles church, Reading (GRO Ref Jun 1898 Reading 2c 770).
In the 1901 census the family was living at 1 Sidmouth Street, Reading. Sidney’s father was a 41 year old surgeon who had been born in Bermuda and his mother was 30. Sidney was aged 2. The family employed two maids and a cook.
In the 1911 census the family was still living in the 12 roomed house at 1 Sidmouth Street, Reading. By that time Sidney had a sister, Gladys Mary aged 8. The family employed 3 servants. The census confirms that Ada had had just two children both of whom were still living. Sidney was recorded at Marlborough House prep school, 37 Bath Road, Reading.
Sidney entered Epsom College Lower School in May 1912, and then progressed to Carr House in the Upper School in September.
He passed his Lower School Certificate with a first class pass in Latin, and although he was near the bottom of the Sixth Form he still managed to pass his School Certificate in 1917. He took an active part in school life; he was a prefect, won the Elocution prize, and was a very keen and able cricketer. He played in the Epsom College 1st XI in 1916 and 1917, and in 1917 headed the bowling averages. He was also a sergeant in the College’s OTC but did not obtain his Certificate A. He left school in July 1917.
He had attested for army service on 12 Dec 1916 to and was appointed to the army reserve. He was 17 years 10 months, 5 ft
9½ins tall with a 33ins chest expanding to 37ins, weighed 140lbs had 6/6 vision. He served at home in the RFA as Gunner 243557. He had also applied for a commission and on 7 September 1917 he joined no 2 RFA Officer Cadet School at Exeter. His house master HF Lee vouched for his good moral character and the headmaster certified he met the educational standard required for an officer. He stated that he was learning to ride. He was discharged formally from Gunner to a temporary commission as Second Lieutenant on 10 Feb 1918. He expressed a preference for a commission in the Artillery Royal Field or Royal Horse but his other choices were the Army Service Corps Motor Transport, Royal Flying Corps, the Intelligence Corps or the Royal Engineers.

He went to France on 18 May 1918 and then took part in fighting in Italy. He was admitted to no 11 General Hospital, Genoa in October with slight influenza, but his general condition was good and at first there was not cause for concern. However he deteriorated quickly and a telegram received by his parents on 5 Nov 1918 reported that 2nd Lt Guilding RFA 106 Bty was dangerously ill. Further news would be sent immediately received. This was followed by a second telegram to inform his parents that he had died on 4 November. He succumbed to broncho-pneumonia which was a common complication with influenza. Probate was granted at Oxford on 24 April 1919 to his mother Ada Louise Guilding and Rev Frank Young clerk £312 11s 10d. Sidney's address was given as Worcester House, 1 Sidmouth Street, Reading i.e his family home. He bequeathed his medals to his sister Gladys.

His personal possessions returned home included a wrist watch with strap, 1 Ingersoll watch with strap, 1 silver cigarette case, 1 metal ID disc, 1 gold ring, a 3d piece, 1 tie pin, 2 cap badges, 2 collar badges, 4 stars, 1 cigarette holder, 1 cheque book, 1 advance book, 2 leather wallets, 1 foreign note, photos, letters, 1 small religious book and 1 metal cigarette case.

He is buried in Campo Santo Staglieno Cemetery, Genoa (British portion) grave I D 49. He is remembered on the war memorial at St Laurence Church, Reading and also on that for Marlborough House school. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his mother, care of his sister at the Battle Infirmary, 344 Oxford Road, Reading.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
Epsom College Register printed
Epsom college Yellow Book
Free BMD
London Gazette 16 Feb 1918.
Probate
Soldiers Died
TNA WO 339/97951
Wisden Obituaries

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Guilding, Sidney Cecil Lansdowne, s. of dr. L. M. Guilding of Reading, b. 1899, L.S. and C., prefect, XI, Elocn. Pr., l. 1917, T/2nd Lt. R.F.A., d. on service 1918

Guilding in Epsom College 1st XI, 1917
Hackney, Gordon Herbert

Birth Year: HMM?  
Entered Epsom College: 1890  
Regiment: Lieut. R.N.V.R. 1914-1918  
House:  
Rank:  
Decorations:  

Marlborough House Dining Hall

Marlborough House War Memorial

Sidney Guilding in uniform

Epsom College: 1890-1895
GORDON HERBERT HACKNEY (1878- c. 1927). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1890-1895] was the son of Dr A. H. Hackney, of Hawkhurst, Kent, brother of Harold Reginald Hackney [Epsom College 1890-1895], and father of Kenneth John Gordon Hackney [Epsom College 1919-1924]. He received his medical education at University College Hospital, and went into general practice at Edgbaston, Birmingham, where he served also as a Clinical Assistant at the Birmingham Hospitals.

Halley, Edward Harland

Born: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.A. Killed in action 1917

Died: 26/11/17 aged 24
Buried: Villers Hill Brit Cem, France
Reference: Mem 3

Edward was born on 17 October 1893 (GRO Ref: Dec 1893 Fulham 1a 290) the only child of William and Constance Augusta Halley of 724 Fulham Road, London SW6. This was probably Park House.

In the 1901 Census seven year old Edward and his mother aged 32 were visiting his widowed grandmother, 75 year old Emily Halley at 3 and 4 Cliff Wall, Exeter Lane, Bournemouth. His father, William, a physician and surgeon was at home at 724 Fulham Road, with 3 servants. A stockbroker’s agent was also staying.

Edward followed in his father’s footsteps by entering Epsom College 18 January 1907. His father had attended 1876-1882 and been Head Prefect. At the time of registration the Halleys were living at Park House, Fulham. Edward entered the Upper III form Wilson House. He had an undistinguished career academically residing in the bottom third of his form. He had a good singing voice and was a chorister in 1906 and 1907. He played in the house rugby XV in 1908/09 and in 1911 played as a back in the Wilson hockey XI. He left Epsom in July 1909 and went to the Imperial Services College, Windsor (incorporating the United Services College) from January to December 1910 where he played in the Rugby XV.

He served in the OTC from 1907 where he became a Lance Corporal until he left school. He was passed as “Efficient” in 1909 and 1910, and achieved a first class pass in musketry although he did not attain his Certificate A. He attended camp in 1909.

In 1911 Edward’s parents were still living in the 12 roomed house at 724 Fulham Road, London. The census confirms that they had been married for 18 years and that Edward was their only child. William was 48 years old and a surgeon. His wife was 42. They employed three servants- a cook, a housemaid and a footman. Edward was not at home. William’s sister-in-law, Muriel...
Nicholson, 23, was staying with them. Once he had completed his studies, Edward was employed as a clerk by Cheney, Eggar and Forrester, shipping and insurance brokers and managers until 1913. He enlisted as a Driver, no 1141 in the County of London Territorial Force, Royal Field Artillery (RFA) on 2 September 1912 at the Fulham Drill Hall, with the view of serving for 4 years. He had served a year in the United Service OTC. He was found to be fit at his medical on 24 October 1912. He was 5ft 8½inches tall, had a 33½ inch chest which expanded to 36 inches with a good physical development and good vision. He had had pneumonia when he was seven but otherwise had not had any serious illnesses. He was discharged officially wef 2 October 1913 because of taking up employment in Singapore. He left London on 9 August 1913 on the steamer Syria. However, after war was declared he returned from Singapore Straits Settlements via Japan, travelling first class on the ship Rhesus. He arrived in Liverpool on 2 February 1915 and then made his way home to Park House, 724 Fulham Road, London.

He applied for a temporary commission on 17 Feb 1915. At his medical at Queen Alexandra hospital, Millbank London SW he was found to have put on an inch round his chest, weighed 150lbs, had good teeth, hearing and vision. He gained a commission as temporary 2nd Lieutenant wef 2 Mar 1915. He married Beatrice Dorothie Stephen in Scotland in 1915 and went to the front the following August.

He was admitted to 12 Stationary Hospital with suspected German Measles on 7 January 1917. Although not considered to be serious it was an infectious illness and he was transferred to 24 General Hospital, Etaples on 19 Jan 1917 for observation. From there he was admitted to 39 General Hospital, Havre on 20 Jan 1917. By 16 February had recovered sufficiently to be discharged to OC Reinforcements Havre.

Edward’s son Peter Harland Halley was in the RAF in the Second World War, leading aircraftsman 517019, and was killed 15 Aug 1940. He is buried at St Luke’s churchyard row F Grave 36, Whyteleafe, Kenley, Surrey.

Sources:
Census 1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Soldiers Service papers
Times 4 Dec 17
TNA WO 339/25360 long no. 46309
United Services register

Halley, Edward Harland, s. of W. H. (1876), b. 1893, W., l. 1909, T/Lt. R.F.A., killed in action 1917
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<td>Hamilton, Charles Robert</td>
<td>Lieut (S.R.), A/Capt. Irish Guards</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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</table>
Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Hamilton, Douglas

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: 2nd Lt. Royal Irish Regt. Killed in action in World War 1
Rank: 2Lt

Died 09/05/15 aged 22
Unit 1st B, R Irish Rifle
Buried Ploegsteert, Belgium
Reference: Panel 9

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

HAMILTON Douglas 2nd Lt Attached to 1st Bn Irish Rifles
Died 9 May 1915

Douglas was born in Enniskerry, County Wicklow, Ireland on 18 Feb 1893, the son of Dr James Charles Hamilton and Beatrice Elizabeth Gun nee Cunningham, his wife. His parents had married in Dublin in 1884 and had five children. Douglas's siblings were Beatrice born 1887, Charles Robert 1888, Albert 1890 and Eric born 1896. They later lived at Duncairn Terrace, Bray County Wicklow.

Douglas's father had practised medicine for over 20 years in Enniskerry and Bray. He had been the dispensary doctor at the Rathbone Workhouse and for the last four years of his life he was the Medical Officer. He gave his life to trying to alleviate the suffering of the poor and balancing that against considering the interests of the rate-payers. He was a friend of Lord and Lady Powerscourt and highly regarded by his colleagues. He died on 9 December 1898 leaving his widow and five children with hardly any means of financial support.

On 29 August 1899 Douglas's mother died too, and he came under the care of Miss Gun Cunningham of Waltrim, Bray, County Wicklow.

In the 1901 Irish census 8 year old Douglas, was living with his younger brother Eric aged 5 and his sister Beatrice aged 14 with an unmarried teacher Eleanor Owen at Delgany, Co Wicklow. The children were described as pupils.

Douglas followed his brother Charles Robert (Foundation Scholar 1899-1905) to Epsom College on 24 Sept 1902 at the early age of 9½, also as a Foundation Scholar. He started in the first form in A House in the Lower School, and progressed to Propert House in the Upper School. Douglas continued at the College for eight years, during which time he crossed the Irish Sea nearly fifty times. The Epsomian noted that he was a delightful, uncomplicated, open and honest boy. He had a range of abilities and made good use of them both in work and in sport. His academic record tended to fluctuate: for the first couple of years he came second, he slipped to 18th out of 20 in the Upper fourth form, but worked hard to come fifth out of 21 boys in the following year. In 1909 he won the Junior essay prize and the following year he won the Geography prize, had two pieces of work shown to the Head and was made a sub-Prefect. There is no evidence that he gained his School Certificate.

Although not as accomplished a sportsman as his brother, he played in the second Rugby XV and the second cricket XI.

Douglas left school in July 1910 and planned to work on the Indian railways. However both his aunts in Waltrim, Bray who were also his guardians died: the widow Mrs Emily Eleanor Ellis on 25 Aug 1910 and Miss Augusta Gun Cunningham on 26 Oct 1910 so he had to reconsider his future.

In the 1911 Irish census, aged 18, he was living as a boarder/godson with the three Barnewell sisters, in Kilmacanoge, Co Wicklow. He was an Irish Protestant. Eleanor Owen was also living there, (see 1901 census). Douglas was described as a scholar.

He was offered what seemed to be a good appointment in Vancouver and went out to Canada but the offer did not materialise. However he soon made friends and found work in an insurance company in Vernon, British Colombia. He really preferred a life in the open air to an office job and would probably have joined his brother who was hunting in the north of Canada when war broke out. He hastened back to Britain at once at his own expense (probably on the ship "Virginian", arriving in Liverpool from Montreal on 29 August 1914).

He enlisted at Westminster, London, on 4 September 1914 as Guardsman 5087. He joined the Irish Guards at Caterham the following day, aged 21 years 6 months. He was 5 foot 11 inches tall, had a chest measurement of 33¾-38 inches when expanded, and weighed 155 pounds. He had a fresh complexion, light blue eyes, fair hair, and a scar on his right thigh and a discoloured patch on his left shoulder. He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 31 December 1914, and served at home until 3 January 1915.

He joined the BEF on 4 Jan 1915 and arrived in France on 5 Jan. He was engaged in the severe fighting at Cuinchy on 1 February 1915 and was in the same platoon with Sergeant O’Leary when he won his VC. He had one or two very close shaves that day but in a letter he described it as "very interesting and exciting". Shortly afterwards (20 March 1915) he was offered a
commission in the Royal Irish Rifles and joined the 1st battalion on 26 March 1915. After training he returned to the front, and was killed in another attempt to take the Aubers Ridge on 9 May at Fromelles. His contemporaries thought he would have made a splendid officer. He was a great sportsman; he had been accustomed to shoot for many years and was a patient and skilful fisherman whilst his knowledge of natural history, his cheery manner and his good nature made him a charming and perfect companion. He was unmarried when he died, and his next of kin was his brother, Albert Hamilton, of 20 Glebe Place, Chelsea, London. A War Office telegram notifying death was sent to him on 18 May 1915. On 27 September 1916 administration of his Estate was granted at Dublin to Charles R Hamilton Second Lieutenant Irish Guards. His effects were valued at £2,077 9s 13d. His brother Charles was also serving firstly as LCpl and then as 2nd Lieut Irish Guards. His address was 23 Carlyle Mansions, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. There is also a reference on his TNA file to his aunt, Mrs Rooke of 2 Clarinda Park East, Kingstown, Co.Dublin.

Douglas has no known grave but is listed on Panel 9 on Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines-Warneston, Hainaut in Belgium. This memorial commemorates more than 11,000 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in this sector during the First World War and have no known grave. The memorial serves the area from the line Caestre-Dranoutre-Warneton to the north, to Haverskerque-Estaires-Fournes (Fournes is south of Aubers) to the south, including the towns of Hazebrouck, Merville, Bailleul and Armentieres, the Forest of Nieppe, and Ploegsteert Wood. It commemorates 189 men from the Royal Irish Rifles who died on 9 May 1915.

He was awarded the 1915 Star, the British War and Victory medals.

Sources
BMD Irish
Epsom college Register, Minutes and Yellow Books Y
Census Y 01,11
Probate Y
CWGC Y
Irish Freemans journal Dec 1898
Epsomian
Foundation Scholar applications Y
Soldiers died
TNA file WO 339/27850
John Livingston Hamilton (1889-1957) was the son of D. L. Hamilton, F.R.C.S., of Timsbury, near Bath, and brother of George Hamilton [Epsom College 1904-1906], and father of Dr Michael Hamilton, M.D. [Epsom College 1937-1940]. He received his medical education at Downing College, Cambridge, and the London Hospital. He then went into general practice at Shoreditch and Clerkenwell, where he was Public Vaccinator for the South West District of the Shoreditch Union. In 1928 he moved to a practice in Chingford, Essex, and was a Medical Referee for the Ministry of Pensions. During First War he served as a Colonel in the R.A.M.C. in Egypt, Palestine and Syria, and was wounded. In 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross and mentioned in despatches. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Essex (1950-1957), and Chairman of the North-East Essex Division of the British Medical Association.

The report of Captain Jack Hamilton's M.C. award.

Belfast Telegraph

Hamley, Bruce Dege

Birth Year: HMM? 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. Roy. Fus.
Rank: HMM?

Handfield-Jones, Ranald Montague

Birth Year: HMM? 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1916-18
Rank: HMM?

OE Doctors
Handfield-Jones, Ranald Montagu (1892-1978).
Epsom College: 1907-1911
RANALD MONTAGU HANDFIELD-JONES (1892-1978). M.C., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1907-1910. prefect. Cricket XI. Hockey XI. MacFarlane Cup] was the son of Dr C. R. Handfield-Jones of Leamington Spa. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to St Mary’s Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C., in France, and was awarded the Military Cross (M.C.), before spending the last six months of the war as a prisoner. On his return to St Mary’s Hospital he achieved the remarkable feat of passing the Conjoint Examination, acquiring the F.R.C.S., and becoming University Gold Medallist in the M.B., B.S. examination – all in the same year. After the War he was appointed Consultant Surgeon and Director of the Surgical Unit at St Mary’s Hospital. He was also Consultant Surgeon to the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, London. During the Second World War he was appointed Medical Officer in charge of emergency medical services at St Mary’s Hospital, where he lived throughout the bombing period. He was a Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Chairman of the Court of Examiners, Royal College of Surgeons. In 1951 he was co-author of The Essentials of Modern Surgery (1951), which ran to five editions.

Hands, Arthur Sheldon

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Lieut (S.R.) Dorset Regt. 1915-18
House: HMM?


Hardiman, Lt.-Col. Horace John

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Lt.-Col. E. Yorks Regt.
House: HMM?

Researcher: Hardiman, Lt.-Col. Horace John, E. Yorks Regt., parentage not ascertained, b. 1892, W., h. XI, l. 1909, d. 1939

Harding, Charles Reginald

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1893
House: HMM?

Researcher: Harding, Charles Reginald, s. of H. R. Harding, company secretary, of Epsom, b. 1881, D.B., l. 1893, land agent and surveyor, Maj. (S.R.) E. Lancs. Regt.; Wildcroft, Seven Hills Road, Cobham
Harding, John Samuel

John Samuel (known as Jack) and Frances Charles Harding were born at 10 Homedale Road, West Hampstead. on 15 October 1895, (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Hampstead 1a 609) the twin sons of Samuel Alfred Harding and his wife Edith Frances nee Manby. Samuel and Edith had married in All Saints church, Eastbourne on 2 Sept 18918 The boys were baptised on 30 Nov 1895 in the parish church of Emmanuel, West End, Hampstead. At that time the family was living at 10 Grove Road, but by 1897 had moved to 26 Inglewood Rd. Their father was a paper merchant.

Around 1900 the family moved to Mayfield, Wray Park Road, Reigate in Surrey where they were recorded in the 1901 census. Samuel was aged 33 and a wholesale stationer. Edith was 32. Jack and Francis were 5 and had two younger siblings: Margaret aged 3 and Bernard Paul who was 18 Three more siblings would be born—George Basil in 1904, Edith Mary 1905 and Barbara Susan 1914.

Jack and his brother joined Epsom College as day boys 21 Sept 1905. Jack started in the first form of the Lower School, whereas Francis started in the Second form. They were both in the Lower and Upper third forms, where Jack lagged behind his brother finishing half way down his form. Jack left at the end of 1908 and went to Tonbridge School, where he was in Park House for the next four years. He was recorded at Tonbridge School in the 1911 census . He took an active part in the School’s OTC becoming a NCO in Sept 1912. He became School Praeposter in his final year. These were Sixth Form boys who played an active role in school life. They were allowed to wear tall hats and tailcoats, to be absent from "Call" or detentions, and to supervise and discipline younger boys. His younger brothers Bernard and George also went to Tonbridge.

He was a good all round athlete and a very useful fast forward, playing in the School’s rugby team in the 1912/1913 season. In 1913 he won the Athletics Points cup with firsts in the high jump (5ft 2ins), hurdles and weights, seconds in half mile, broad jump and hammer and a third in the cross country. He was also a keen and promising golfer.

In the 1911 census his mother and some of his siblings were recorded living in a 16 roomed house, the Gables, in Ewell in Surrey.

On leaving Tonbridge he went to Lausanne, Switzerland and received a glowing report “Among the English boys there, he was an example of what an English boy should be, honest and self respecting”. After a period in France to improve his knowledge of the language he returned to England to join his father’s business but on the outbreak of war he immediately volunteered.

He was gazetted as 2nd Lieut 11 bn Northumberland Fusiliers 22 Sept 1914 and promoted to Lieut 10 June 1915. He went to France in 28 August 1915.

In his short service attestation in Sept 1914 Jack gave his next of kin as his father of Brackenwood, Leatherhead. The Depot CO recommended strongly that he was officer material and should go for a commission. He had a medical at Maidstone on 1 Sept and was found fit. He had learnt to ride as a boy although he had not done so for some years and he had a thorough knowledge of French.

He was gazetted as 2nd Lieut 11 bn Northumberland Fusiliers 22 Sept 1914 and promoted to Lieut 10 June 1915. He went to France in 28 August 1915 and described some of his experiences in letters to his twin which were reproduced in De Ruvigny. He was killed in action near Armentieres on 8 Nov 1915.

The circumstances in which he met his death are best described in a letter from his Colonel:-

"I deeply regret to report that Jack was killed at 6.45 this morning. He was shot through the heart while on the parapet arranging his advanced snipers for the day and locating enemy sniper positions; he died with little pain and almost immediately. He will be buried in a Military Cemetery in the demolished small town Bois Grenier, which lies two and a half miles south of the town of Armentieres and one mile west of the firing line. Jack was my battalion scouting and sniping officer, my dearest friend and comrade—in fact, my most valuable right-hand man as regards information of the enemy. He was fearless, resolute and offensive to a degree in his hazardous work on patrols and sniping. As an officer and comrade he cannot be replaced. When we came here, the German snipers and patrols used to wander about quite close to our wire: but Jack’s activity as patrol officer soon drove them all back to their trenches. He frequently brought in articles from the German wire, and also accounted for several Germans with the telescopic rifle I gave him. He played the man with the utmost courage and indifference to his own safety. I made up my mind some time ago to recommend Jack for the Military Cross, for conspicuous service on several occasions."

Company Commander says:-

"To myself personally his loss is a grievous blow, for I had known him long enough to appreciate his winning personality and his fine qualities. In him the Battalion loses a fearless officer, who would have made a great name for himself, he been spared,
and his brother officers mourn the loss of a dear comrade."

The Chaplain's letter contains the following:

"I have been chaplain to the 68th Brigade for well on a year, and I knew your son well - such a good fellow, and we all loved him much."

Another officer writes:

"We all miss him very much indeed, as he was always so cheery throughout all the discomforts which we naturally have out here. It is part of my duty to censor the men's letters, and I may say that one and all of his platoon have written to their homes lamenting the loss of their officer."

He still lies in Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, near Armentieres in France, plot I B 8 and is remembered on the Leatherhead and Oxshott War memorials.

On 7 July 1919 his father wrote to the King to thank him for the commemorative scroll he had received, commenting that it was "a kindly thought, beautifully expressed and deeply appreciated." He also received his son's 1915 Star, British War and Victory medals.

Sources
Baptism Register Emmanuel church
Census 1901,1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsom Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
Tonbridge School Register
TNA ref WO 339/14714

Harding, John Samuel, twin to the above, D.B., I. 1908, occupation unknown, T/Lt. Northumberland Fus., killed in a flying accident on active service probably in 1915

Hardwick, Nathaniel Charles

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<td>Rank</td>
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Died 15/09/17 aged 42
Buried Ramscappelle Mil Cem, Belgium
Reference: I. BA. 22.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

HARDWICK Nathaniel Charles Lieutenant
10 Bn Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry
KIA 15 Sept 1917

Nathaniel was born in Poplar 20 Jan 1875 (GRO Ref: Mar 1875 Poplar 1c 751), the son of Charles Arthur Hardwick and his wife Julia Sarah nee Ridge. His parents had married in St Matthew’s church, City Road, Holborn on 8 April 1874. Nathaniel was baptised at All Saints Poplar 27 Feb 1875. At that time his family was living at 5 Woodstock Road, Poplar.

In 1881 six year old Nathaniel was living with his parents at 1 Newby Close, Poplar. Charles was a 39 year old school master, and Julia was 38 years old. Nathaniel had two younger brothers Courtenay William aged 4 and Edgar who was 2. His aunt, Sarah Hardwick, was living with them. The family employed a servant and a nurse girl. A sister, Ruth, had been born in 1876 but died the following year. In 1883 a third brother, Somers Henry was born.

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Nathaniel’s father registered him to start at Epsom College on 19 September 1888. By that time, his parents’ address was the High School, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey. He entered the Third Form, of Propert House and had a £20 entrance scholarship for 2 years. He took part in the spiritual life of the school and was confirmed on 12 Mar 1890. Despite gaining a scholarship, he did not flourish academically at Epsom coming 16 out of 18 students in 1889 and bottom of the fifth form the following year. Maybe he was anxious about his lack of achievement, or did not want to disappoint his parents, but something prompted him to use a “key” or translation guide on 24 July 1891 for translating classical prose which he then submitted as his own work. The Headmaster regarded this as a most serious offence and wrote to Mr Hardwick explaining that he could not accept Nathaniel back into the school.

In 1891 Nathaniel’s family was living at Cambridge House, Cheam Road, Sutton. His father appeared to have been running a private school as two tutors were living with the family and 3 boys were boarding with them.
Unphased by his early departure from Epsom College, Nathaniel studied at London University and became a school master himself. In 1901 he was an assistant school master at Barton School, Wisbech. In 1911 he was living in a 2 roomed cottage, Kirkland House in Bodmin where he was a school master at Cornwall’s County Council school. In his short spell at Epsom College he had been a private in the OTC, and he took on responsibility for physical drill at Bodmin school.

He married Julia Hawkey, the second daughter of the late Henry Hawkey of Pencourse Summercourt at St Enedor’s church Cornwall on 3 April 1915.

When war broke out he applied for the Special Reserve in the Devon and Cornwall Light Infantry (DCLI) on 16 October 1914 and the headmaster of the school at which he was employed vouched for his good moral character. At the time he was living at 6 Robartes Road, Bodmin. He obtained a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in Nov 1914 and was promoted to lieutenant early in 1916. He served in the Reserve Bn DCLI, going to the Isle of Wight with them in 1915 where he remained until 23 July 1917. He served with the Expeditionary Force in France where he was killed by a shell on 15 Sept 1917 in the battle of Paschendaele.

His Colonel wrote “He came to us about a month ago and from the moment of his arrival displayed the greatest devotion to duty: so much so, indeed, that he was marked for early promotion. He was keen, altogether fearless and daily shared the risks of his men. He was killed while supervising some technical work near the front line trenches. I know of no instance when an officer has so quickly won the affection and esteem of his brother officers and men. He was buried this evening with military honours in the British military cemetery at Osstdunkerke among the sand dunes by the sea.”

The Chaplain said “As Chaplain of the battalion I buried the body of your husband in a little British cemetery, just behind the village where the camp is. He was of course given full military honours and it was a most impressive service, many officers and men being present.”

A brother officer wrote “From what I hear he showed the greatest courage and fortitude to the end. I can assure you no one will be more missed in the battalion than he will. In a large mess like ours there are always cliques and jealousies but he was good friends with everyone. As PRI I had a good deal to do with him as Messing Officer and he was always so nice to me and so anxious to help or relieve me of any tiresome little troubles or details that might crop up. We have had many of our officers killed in this war but I have never known such universal sorrow and regret expressed not only by the officers but by all ranks when the sad news came through.”

He was initially buried at OostDunkirke but was later moved to Ramscapelle Road Military Cemetery, Nieuwpoort Belgium plot I BA 22. This cemetery was enlarged significantly after the armistice when graves were brought in from battlefields and smaller cemeteries including those in OostDunkirke. The removal of the bodies from OostDunkirke was undertaken with every manner of care and reverence and the re-interment was conducted by a military chaplain.

Probate was granted to his widow Julia Grace Hardwick 26 Nov 1917 to administer his estate, the value of which was £573 14s 4d.

He was awarded the British and Victory medals, which were sent to his widow at Mount Pleasant, Bodmin. He is remembered on the Barton school memorial which is now housed in the church of St Peter and St Paul Wisbech.

Sources

Ancestry family tree
Census 1881, 1891, 1901, 19118
De Ruvigny’s roll of honour
TNA WO 339/2319
Probate

Harland, Robert Ernest Compton

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Harland, The Rev. Prebendary Horace Claude

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Harland, Robert Ernest Compton, brother of H. C. H. (1901), b. 1890, C., l. 1906, Emm. Coll., Camb, M.A. and R.M.C., schoolmaster, formerly Capt. Queen’s Regt.; 17 Southway, P.O. Burnside, Buluwayo

Harland, The Rev. Prebendary Horace Claude, M.C.

Harlock, Eric Donald
Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Canadian Infantry

Researcher: Peter Dodd

Harrison, Patrick Stubbs
Birth Year: 1900
Entered Epsom College: 1915
Regiment: Midshipman R.N.R. 1918

Researcher: Peter Dodd

Hartnett, Laurence John
Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1909

Researcher: Peter Dodd

Harvey, Sidney Estridge
Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Pte Bedford Regt. 1914-18
Harvey, Sidney Estridge (1893-1950).
Epsom College: 1908-1911
SIDNEY ESTRIDGE HARVEY (1893-1950). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1908-1911] was the son of Dr S. F. Harvey, of Queen’s Gate, Kensington, London, and father of Philip Sidney Harvey [1943-1948]. He received his medical education at St Thomas’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Bexley, Kent.

Hawkins, William Lawrence

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Hawkins, William Lawrence was the son of Dr. William Hawkins of Abbotsbury, Dorset. He received his medical education at King’s College Hospital, and then went into general practice at Broadwey, Dorset. He later joined the Royal Navy as a Surgeon Commander.

Hawthorne, Charles Bernard

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Hawthorne, Charles Bernard

Haydon, William Eric

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<tr>
<td>1906</td>
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<td>T/Lt. Ayrshire Yeo. 1914-18</td>
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Haydon, William Eric (1892-?).

Hawkes, Horace Guy Lankester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
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<th>Regiment:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.</td>
<td>T.D.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hayward, Milward Cecil

| Regiment: | T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-16. d. of illness contracted on service, 19 |

Died 23/08/16 aged 46
Buried Abingdon Cemetery, Berkshire
Reference: S.35.G9

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Hayward, Milward Cecil Capt 28 Field Ambulance RAMC, TF
Died 23 Aug 1916,

Milward was born 4 October 1870 at Torrington Square, London. His birth was registered in St Giles, London. The son of Henry Howard Hayward and his second wife Elizabeth nee Radley. Milward’s father had practised as a dental surgeon in Marylebone, but by 1871 he was 65 and had moved the family to a fine period property, Sibton Park House, in Lyminge, Kent. 4 month old Milward had a three year old brother Arthur, and his mother Elizabeth was 418 Six of his 9 step-siblings were also living with them along with three servants.

In the 1881 census 10 year old Milward was living with his widowed mother and brothers Arthur aged 13 and Edwin 8 at 49 Marlborough Hill, Marylebone. His step-sister 36 year old Grace was living with them as well as a cook and housemaid. Milward entered Epsom College, Wilson House 1884 . At the time his family was living at 27 Willow Road, Hampstead, London NW. His brother would follow him there in 1888. He came fifth out of 17 pupils in the Lower Fifth form in 1887, matriculated in 1889 and went on to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge where he graduated with a BA 1893. He studied medicine at Guy’s hospital and gained the double qualification of MRCS and LRCP, London as well as his MA in 1898.

In the 1891 census Milward was staying at a farmhouse, Lynsore Bottom, in Upper Hardres Kent along with 3 other students, presumably on holiday.
In the 1901 census he was recorded as a surgeon and living in the nurses home at 268 Marylebone Road, London. On 24 September of that year he married Constance Mary Edwardes in Santa Barbara.

He filled the post of clinical clerk at the Samaritan Hospital for Women and Children. He then moved to the Paddington Green Children’s Hospital as house surgeon and house physician. He became the Resident Medical Officer at the North West Hospital. In 1902 he set up his own practice in Abingdon, Berkshire. He attained his MB and BCh in 1903.

At the time of the Boer War he was appointed Civil Doctor to the Guards Victoria Barracks, Windsor.
In the 1911 census he and his wife Constance, aged 40, were living in a 10 roomed house at 65 Stert Street, Abingdon. They had three children, all living, Edwin William aged 8, Gertrude E aged 7 and Philip C aged 2. They employed a nurse, a cook and a housemaid. A second daughter, Constance Marian, was born on 29 Nov 19118

When war broke out he volunteered joining the 3rd Home Counties Field Ambulance and gazetted Lieutenant on 3 Dec 1914.
He was promoted later to captain. He was sent to France with the British Expeditionary Force on 11 May 1915 he was dangerously wounded on the Menin Road when a shell hit him in the back causing concussion of the spine and a bullet pierced his lung. He was evacuated back to the UK and was on sick leave until 1 Mar 1916 when he was posted on duty to a military hospital. Whilst there he succumbed to pneumonia and died of acute double septic pneumonia at the Howard Home, Brighton.

He was an active member of the Masons for much of his life as a founder member of the Old Epsomian Lodge No 3561 in October 1911, although his membership ceased in 1914. Rank Past Master initiated 26 Apr 1892, passed 25 Oct 1892 and raised 7 Feb 1893. He was initiated into the Isaac Newton University Lodge No 859 at Cambridge. He joined the University Lodge no 118(London) on 15 March 1895 when he was a student at Guy’s Hospital. He joined the Abbey Lodge No 945 Abingdon 8 January 1903. He resigned in December 1904, but became Master of the Abbey Lodge in 1911.

His funeral was held at Abingdon on Saturday 26 August 1916 and he is buried in Abingdon Cemetery, Spring Road, Abingdon Berkshire plot 3 S 9.

Probate was granted to his widow on 1 Dec 1916 and his estate was valued at £2157 2s 10d.

He was awarded the 1915 Star and the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his widow at The Holt, Abingdon in 1922.

Sources
CWGC
Alumni Cantabrigiensis
De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914-1918
Epsom Yellow book 1887-89
Guy’s hospital Report LXX War Memorial number
Probate Records
Times 26 August 1916:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Hayward, Milward Cecil, s. of Henry Hayward, dentist, of Torrington Square, b. 1870, W., l. 1889, Gonv. and Caius Coll., Camb, and St. Mary's Hosp., M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C., brother of E. L. H. (1888), d. of illness contracted on service 1916

Wilson House War Memorial
Dr. Milward Hayward

Milward Hayward's grave at Abingdon Cemetery, Berkshire.

Heard, Arthur Douglas

Birth Year:  
Entered Epsom College: 1900

Decorations:

House:  
HMM? ☐
Heard, Charles Campbell
Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Rank

Hearnden, Walter Ralph Gill
Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Rank

Hefferman, Leslie William
Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: T/Capt Border Regt. 1914-18
Rank
Henson, Phillip Henry  
Birth Year: 1889  
Entered Epsom College: 1904  
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
House: HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

**Henson, Phillip Henry, s. of J. R. Henson, solicitor, of Hornsea, Yorks, b. 1889, G., head prefect, h. XI (capt.), Watts and Mod. Hist. Prs., l. 1907, Lond. Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 1930**

**Henson, Philip Henry (1889-1930).**

**Epsom College: 1904-1907**

**PHILLIP HENRY HENSON (1889-1930). M.B., B.S. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1904-1907. head prefect. Captain of Hockey XI. Watts Science and Modern History Prizes] was the son of J. R. Henson, solicitor, of Hornsea, Yorkshire. He received his medical education at the London Hospital, and went into general practice at Normanton, Yorkshire. He later emigrated to Fort Victoria, Southern Rhodesia. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918).**

Hepburn, George Donald  
Birth Year: 1898  
Entered Epsom College: 1913  
Regiment: F.O. R.N.A.S. 1915-18  
House: HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

**Hepburn, George Donald, s. of George Hepburn, leather merchant, of Sutton, b. 1898, D.B., l. 1914, 'executive, wholesale butter processing', F.O. R.N.A.S. 1915-18; 93 Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton**

Heppard, Roland William L'Estrange  
Birth Year: 1899  
Entered Epsom College: 1913  
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.A. 1916-18  
House: HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  


Herbert, Capt Henry Arthur  
Birth Year: 1897  
Entered Epsom College: 1911  
Regiment: Capt I.A.  
House: HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

**Herbert, Capt Henry Arthur, s. of Capt Henry Herbert, b. 1897, l. 1911, occupation withholding, Capt I.A. 1911-18; occupation withheld, Capt I.A. 1917-18; occupation withhold, Capt I.A. 1923-**
Hewlett, Richard Frederick Lister

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/Lt. L.R.B. 1915-18
Rank

Researcher:

Heywood, Thomas Walmsley

Birth Year: 1861
Entered Epsom College: 1877
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank

Researcher:

Hichens, Eric William Thornton

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1916-18
Rank

Researcher:

Hick, Godfrey Macdona

<table>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
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Hick, Rupert Bannatyne

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Hickey, Seymour York

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Hicks, John Athelstan Braxton

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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1896</td>
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Hicks, John Athelstan Braxton, s. of A. B. Hicks, barrister-at-law, of Lupus Street, b. 1885, W., l. 1902, Westm. Hosp. and Lond. U., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., T/Lt.  R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 1935

Hicks, John Athelstan Braxton (1885-1935).

JOHN ATHELSTAN BRAXTON HICKS (1885-1935). M.D., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Cantab.) [Epsom College 1895-1902. Rugby XV] was the son of A. B. Hicks, barrister-at-law, of Lupus Street, Westminster. He received his medical training at the Westminster Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. with Honours in Pathology. During the First World War he served as a Lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918), and was placed in Charge of the Bacteriology Laboratory at the royal Herbert Military Hospital, Woolwich. After the War he was appointed Reader in Pathology and Director of the Pathological Laboratories, at the Westminster Hospital Medical School, University of London. He was also the Pathologist in charge of the Group Laboratories of the London County Council, and Pathologist to the Seamen’s Hospital, Greenwich. It was said of him: “As a teacher he was highly valued by students. From him they learned far more than mere pathological details. They learned something of the philosophical basis of medicine and a great deal about their fellow men and of the world in which they were to practise.”

Hill, Charles Vincent

Decoration: M.C.

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: T/Lt. Ox. and Bucks L.I. 1915-18

Hill, Clive Gardiner

Decoration: M.B.E.

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Surg. Lt. R.N. 1916-17

Hill, Horace Bryden

Decoration:

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Epsom College: 1893-1899  
Horace Bryden Hill (1879-1955), B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1893-1898. prefect. Cricket XI. Sterry, Watts Science and Harvey Prizes] was the son of Dr R. B. Hill of Tywardreath, Cornwall. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew's Hospital, where not only was he an Entrance Scholar but also winner of the Du Pasquier Scholarship. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon Commander in the Royal Navy with the North Atlantic Fleet. He was Medical Superintendent of Laverstock House Mental Hospital, Salisbury. Following the earthquake in Sicily and Southern Italy in 1908 he was made an Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy (this was awarded in recognition of the valuable services he rendered at the earthquake site). He was also made an Esquire of the Order of St John, Cheval.

Hilliard, Harvey  
Decorations: C.B.E.  
Birth Year: 1874  
Entered Epsom College: 1888  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.F.M.S.  
House: HMM?  
Rank

Harvey Hilliard (1874-1956) [Epsom College 1888-1889] was the son of Dr Robert Harvey Hilliard, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, brother of Robert Harvey Hilliard [Epsom College 1896-1902], and father of Dr Cedric Harvey Hilliard [Epsom College 1915-1918]. From Epsom College he went on to study medicine at Charing Cross Hospital where he won the Silver Medal in Physiology and other academic honours and was, for a time, assistant demonstrator in anatomy at the medical school. He qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1896, took the D.P.H. of the Royal Colleges in 1913, and the Zurich M.D. in 1922. In 1898 he went to Ceylon to help in the reorganisation of the Medical College of Colombo, holding the appointments of Principal Civil Medical Officer of Ceylon, Registrar and Lecturer in Hygiene and Anaesthetics at the Medical College, and Aural Surgeon to the Grenier Memorial Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital. After two years in Ceylon he returned to London and was appointed anaesthetist at the London Hospital, Royal Dental Hospital of London and Charing Cross Hospital. He continued to serve both the latter hospitals until 1929, when he was appointed Consultant Anaesthetist at the Royal Dental Hospital of London. He also held appointments at King George’s Military Hospital and the French Hospital.

It has been suggested that the first modern gas inhaler for anaesthesia was that constructed by James Watt, the renowned engineer, for Sir Humphrey Davy in 1799. This was a gasometer to which was attached an almost impermeable silken bag from which the patient inhaled nitrous oxide (‘laughing gas’). After this early experiment there followed almost a century of further trials and
errors. That is ‘trials’ of new pieces of anaesthetic apparatus, and ‘errors’ of design and judgement in their use. Indeed, ‘errors’ in some cases that contributed to loss of life. During the 19th century the apparatus used almost invariably delivered the anaesthetic gas or liquid directly on or into a face mask through which the patient inhaled the agent. In no case was it possible to accurately deliver a calculated dose of the anaesthetic agent or, in many cases, to control the delivery. In April 1898, Harvey Hilliard introduced a method of passing a soft rubber tube through the nose into the nasopharynx, this tube being connected to the gas cylinder by rubber tubing. Interposed were two small rubber bags from which came a continuous and even flow of gas to the nasal tube. Distention of the proximal bag attached to the nasal tube indicated the pressure of the gas. He was the first anaesthetist to suggest the use of nasal tubes, his plan consisting of introducing a catheter through the nostril so that its free end hung over the opening in the larynx. This apparatus was clearly the forerunner of the more sophisticated anaesthetic apparatus in use today, and it seems clear that Harvey Hilliard was one of the more important pioneers of modern anaesthesia. In 1912, he published jointly with F. Coleman a book entitled Anaesthetics in Dental Practice, when nitrous oxide, ether and chloroform were the main anaesthetics in common use.

Hilliard quickly won recognition as a clinician and as a teacher was clear and concise, but perhaps a little dogmatic, but his generous attitude of give and take was very helpful to those who collaborated with him. He had a vast knowledge of many subjects and was sympathetic to the views and practices expressed by others, even if they did not accord with his own. In 1905, he wrote that he had used blue light, which he shone into the eyes of his patients, as an anaesthetic. He claimed that in 32 cases he had 20 ‘absolutely successful results,’ and that his failures occurred only in patients who were highly nervous having been ‘told by others that some new experiment was being tried, and that they did not carry out my instructions and keep their eyes fixed on the light.’ In spite of his use of blue light he was not entirely convinced of its efficacy. In a letter to the British Medical Journal he recommended that a clinical trial be undertaken so that a definite judgement might be formed as to whether blue-light rays had any real power in producing true analgesia. Suffice it to say, blue light has never been widely accepted as an analgesic agent.

Harvey Hilliard was twice Chairman of the Westminster Division of the British Medical Association (1911-1912 and 1922-1923) and, in 1912, was elected Vice-President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch. He was a member of the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers and of the Knights of the Round Table Club, and was one of the founders of the Empire hospital in Vincent’s Square, Westminster. In 1922 he was appointed C.B.E. His son, Cedric Harvey Hilliard (born 1901) [Epsom College 1915-1918] received his medical training at Jesus College, Cambridge and St George’s Hospital and held the appointment of Consultant Radiologist at the Lister Hospital, Hitchin.

**Hilliard, Robert Harvey**

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<th>Rank</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1896</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regimen:</td>
<td>T/Maj. Canadian Forces 1914-18</td>
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**Hills, John Fletcher Twycross**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1911</td>
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<td>Regimen:</td>
<td>Gunner, H.A.C. 1916-18</td>
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**Hingston, Lt.-Col. Alan Trevelyon**

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1913</td>
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**Hirst, Joseph Walker**

- **Regiment:** T/Capt. D. of Wellington's Regt. 1915-18
- **Birth Year:** 1896
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1910
- **Rank:** HMM? □

**Hodges, Aubrey Dallas Perceval**

- **Regiment:** T/Lt.-Col., A.D.M.S., East African Expeditionary Force
- **Birth Year:** 1861
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1870
- **Rank:** C.M.G.

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**HODGES, AUBREY DALLAS PERCEVAL (1861-1946).** C.M.G., M.B. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), M.D. (Lond.). - Principal Medical Officer, Uganda Protectorate.


**Aubrey Hodges (1861-1946) [Epsom College 1870-1877] was an early pioneer of tropical medicine, working principally in Uganda and East Africa. He was the son of H. B. Hodges, a surgeon, of Watton, in Hertfordshire, and brother of Dr Herbert Chamney Hodges [Epsom College 1870-1875], and the Rev. Alexander Vaux Hodges, M.A. [Epsom College 1874-1877], and father of Major Aubrey Davis Hodges [Epsom College 1926-1930]. He entered Epsom College at the early age of nine years, and in his final year was a member of the Rugby XV. He completed his medical training at the London Hospital.**
Hospital, graduating M.B. in 1890, and after the usual medical residencies was appointed Resident Medical Officer at the South-East Fever Hospital at New Cross. In 1898, he was appointed Medical Officer in Uganda by the Foreign Office and recorded that his salary for this appointment was £450 per annum. From 1908 until 1918 he was Principal Medical Officer for the Uganda Protectorate and Medical Officer in charge of the Sleeping Sickness (Trypanosomiasis) Extended Investigation. During the First World War he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the East Africa Expeditionary Force, Commanding the Uganda Medical Service. It was during this period that he also served as Assistant Director of Medical Services for the Uganda Protectorate. He was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Aubrey Hodges’ original work on the life-history and bionomics of the tsetse fly (Glossina spp.) was very important and in many ways paved the way towards the eradication and understanding of sleeping sickness. This work was published as a report: Observations relating to the transmission of Sleeping Sickness in Uganda, etc. (Royal Society, Sleeping Sickness Bureau, London, 1909). His diaries are deposited in the library of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. They are extremely readable and provide a clear insight into conditions encountered in East Africa at the turn of the twentieth century. He described in some detail his encounters with warring tribesmen and the result of punitive expeditions against them: “We shot 45 of them and captured 25 women and children.” He also described in fine detail the flora and fauna of Uganda as well as his adventures while big game hunting. In 1899, he played cricket for Uganda against East Africa and noted with relish that he took six wickets during the match. In his obituary it was written: “Apart from his skill as a doctor and administrator of his department, he was a scientist and naturalist of no mean order.

Hodges, Eric Jordan

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Hodges, Harold Wardale

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<th>Birth Year: 1893</th>
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<td>Regiment: T/2nd Lt. K.R.R.C. Killed in action 1915</td>
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Died 09/05/15 aged 21
Buried Le Touret Memorial, France
Reference: Panel 32 - 33

Harold was born at Watton-at-Stone Hertfordshire on 14 Oct 1893 the son of Herbert Champney Hodges and his wife Dora Katherine nee Wardale. .. He was baptised on 24 Dec 1893 at Watton. In the 1901 census the family was living at Watton Cottage, Watton. His father was a 41 year old surgeon. His mother was 33. Harold was aged 7 and had two siblings, Eric aged 6 and Margaret aged 1. The family employed a housemaid and cook. Harold won an Entry Scholarship to Epsom College in 1907 and started in September. He proved himself to be an exceptionally able student. He won Junior, Senior and Leaving scholarships and took a sweep of prizes, always coming top of his form. He earned a reputation for being both intelligent and a hard worker and worked his way up the School to the Classical VI form where he finished as top student. He won the Martin Prize for Classics in 1910, 1911 and 1912. He was also an excellent linguist and won the Junior and Middle School French prizes. In 1910 he also won the Drawing prize and in 1912 he won the Botany prize. He was Head of Propert House when he left and the masters voted that he should win the Brande Good Conduct prize and the school voted for him to win the Wakely Prize. In addition he was awarded the Modern History prize and the Propert prize in 1912 and had two pieces of work presented to the Headmaster. He passed his Higher School Certificate in 1910. He was
recorded at the College in the 1911 census.
He won an exhibition to Hertford College, Oxford in 1912 where he took a first in Classical Moderations in 2 years, and was made an honorary university Scholar.
He excelled at all games and represented both Epsom College and Hertford College at cricket, football, and hockey. He captained the hockey team at Epsom College. His critique in the Epsomian April 1910, never over effusive, stated that he was “A hard working half, rather slow on his feet but his stick work was good: too inclined to play the ball on his left; some of his strokes lacked power.” The following year it read: “Centre half 1910-11. Quite good as a rule, keeps his men together well and is always well up behind his attack. Good on his left side but rather too fond of playing the ball there. A keen and energetic captain.” In 1912 he scored 186 runs in cricket for Epsom College an average of 16.82. His obituary in the Times indicated that he captained hockey and cricket at Oxford, too.
He was a corporal in Epsom College’s OTC and gained his certificate A. He continued in the OTC at Oxford. He was able to ride and had been on annual camps in 1913 and 1914. He applied for a commission in the Special Reserve (Territorials) on 4 August 1914 and had a medical board on 10 September 1914. He was 68ins tall, 31 ¾in chest expanding to 35 ½ins, weighed 140lbs, had sound hearing, good teeth, and normal vision with glasses (without glasses his vision was 6/36 in his right eye and D24 in his left). He had a sound constitution and a good physique.
He was gazetted 2nd Lieut from the University OTC on 18 Aug 1914 and went to France 11 December 1914 having been attached to the 2nd Bn KRRC, in the 1st Div, which formed part of 2nd Bde. He was killed in action near Rue de Bas during the advance on Aubers Ridge Sunday 9 May 1915.
Harold was a promising and widely loved young man. His CO wrote that “ We were ordered to attack German trenches and he was gallantly leading his platoon when he was wounded. A man went up to bandage him up but they were under machine gun fire and were both killed. I regret very much that the attack failed so that we were unable to recover his body. He was one of my best subalterns and is a very great loss to me. Besides being a first rate officer he was a charming boy and deservedly popular with his brother officers.”
He was awarded the 1915 Star and the British war and victory medals. These were sent to his mother care of F Lipscomb, Woodhall, Hertford. A letter about issuing a plaque and scroll was also sent on 2 Jan 1919. He is remembered on a memorial at St Andrew and St Mary, Watton at Stone and on the Le Touret memorial panel

His brother Eric also attended Epsom College and served in the Canadian Engineers. His sister Margaret attended St Helena’s College, Harpenden.

Sources:
BMD Y
Parish Reg
Census Y 01,11
Probate Y
CWGC Y
Soldiers died
TNA file WO 339/14983
Times Y
De Ruvigny Y
Epsomian Y
Medal Index card Y
Oxford University roll of service Y
Picture from De Ruvigny roll of honour

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Hodgson, Alec Wilberforce  
**Birth Year:**  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1891  
**Regiment:** Lt. Can. Field Artillery 1914-18  
**Decorations:**  
**Researcher:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*  

Hoffmeister, Brig. Herbert Arthur Reginald  
**Birth Year:**  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1893  
**Regiment:** King's Shropshire Light Infantry  
**Decorations:** O.B.E., M.C.  
**Researcher:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*  
Hoffmeister [now Aubrey], Brig. Herbert Arthur Reginald, O.B.E., M.C., late The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, brother of the above, b. 1883, W., l. 1898, R.M.C.; The Times obit., 23 Nov., 1954

Hoffmeister, Cyril John Robey  
**Birth Year:**  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1893  
**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
**Decorations:**  
**Researcher:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*  
Hoffmeister [now Aubrey], Cyril John Robey, s. of J. B. H. (1865), b. 1881, W., l. 1899, Conv. and Caius Coll., Camb, and Middx Hosp., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18 and 1941-7; Campside, Wareham

Holford, Arthur Frederick  
**Birth Year:**  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1890  
**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. R.G.A. (T.F.), 1915-18  
**Decorations:**  
**Researcher:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*  
Holford, Arthur Frederick, brother of the above, b. 1877, W., l. 1893, marine insurance broker at Lloyds, T/2nd Lt. R.G.A. (T.F.), 1915- 18, d. 1946
Holford, Frank Hansard

Birth Year: 1879
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: Served as a corporal in WW1
House: 
Rank: 
Decorations: 
Researcher: Holford, Frank Hansard, brother of W. S. H. (1879), b. 1885, W., l. 1900, builder, served as a corporal in World War I, d. 1937

Holland, Arthur Robert Cole

Birth Year: 1900
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Sergt. R.A.F. 1918
House: 
Rank: 
Decorations: 

Holland, Charles Henry Hayman

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1909
House: 
Rank: 
Decorations: 

Holroyd, Henry

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C.
House: 
Rank: 
Decorations: 
Researcher: Holroyd, Henry, s. of Tom Holroyd, bookkeeper, of Wood Grove, Burnley, b. 1881, F., prefect, XV, h. XI, Watts Pr., l. 1900, Middx Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Capt. R.A.M.C. (T.F.), d. 1932

OE Doctors

Holroyd, Henry (1881-1932).
Epsom College: 1896-1901
HENRY HOLROYD (1881-1932). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. [Epsom College 1896-1900. prefect. Rugby XV (1898-1900). Watts Science Prize. Stone Scholarship. Jenks Memorial Scholarship] was the son of Tom Holroyd, a book-keeper of Burnley, Lancashire. He received his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. After the War he was appointed Assistant County Medical Officer for Lancashire. He had been previously employed as Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Herefordshire, and before that as Assistant Medical Officer of Health for the City of Norwich.


Homan, Edward Noel St. John Leslie, M.C., s. of dr. G. W. Homan of Lichfield, b. 1887, W., l. 1905, occupation unknown, Capt. R.A.S.C. (T.F.) 1914-18
Hooper, Staff Surg. Alfred Oswald

Birth Year: 1878
Entered Epsom College: 1893
House: C

Regiment: Staff Surg. R.N. Killed in an explosion on board H.M.S. Natal

Died: 30/12/15 aged 37
Buried: Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent


Hooper, Alfred Oswald

Died: 30 December 1915

Oswald, as he was known, was born in Burton on Trent on 2 Nov 1878 (GRO Ref; Dec 1878 Burton on Trent 6B 390) the son of Dr Alfred Hooper and his wife Helen Louisa nee Giles. His parents had married in 1876 (GRO Ref: June 1876 Richmond Surrey 2a 494). Oswald was baptised on 13 May 1879 at Newhall, Derbyshire.

In 1881 the family was living in Union Street, Burton on Trent. Oswald's father was a 32 year old general medical practicioner. His mother was 33. He had an older sister Mary Helen aged 4 and a younger one, Evelyn aged 18. The family employed two nurses and a servant. Oswald's grandmother Elizabeth Baggaley was living with them.

By 1891 the family had grown considerably and Alfred had seven siblings: Mary aged 14, Evelyn 11, Emily 9, Kate Louisa 7, Dorothy 6, Percy John 4 and Harold 2. The family employed a cook a nurse and a housemaid. The family was living at 178 Hornington Street, in Burton on Trent. Alfred's father was still working as a general practitioner. Alfred's grandmother Elizabeth Baggaley and a medical assistant were also living with the family and they employed a nurse, a cook and a housemaid.

Oswald attended Burton on Trent grammar school before his father enrolled him to enter Epsom College Upper School, Carr House on 2 May 1893. He started in the Lower Fourth form. At the time the family was still living at the Burton on Trent address. He was confirmed at school on 1 May 1895. In his first two years he ranked around the middle of his form, but in 1895 he came fourth out of 23 boys in Shell form and attained his Lower School Certificate. He played cricket but was not in the school first XI. He left at Christmas 1895 and went to Edinburgh University and the Royal Infirmary to study medicine.

In the 1901 census Oswald and his 7 siblings (Mary Robinson aged 24, Evelyn 21, Emily 19, Kate 17, Dorothy 16, Percy 14, and Harold 12) were living with their widowed father at 167 Hornington Street, Burton on Trent. Oswald's aunt Mary Thomas, his brother-in-law Thomas Robinson and his 7 month old niece Emily Robinson were staying with them. The family, employed a cook and housemaid. His mother had died earlier in the year.

He passed his final exams for a degree in medicine and surgery (M.B, Ch.B) at Edinburgh in June 1903. He had been an enthusiastic rugby player and cricketer, and represented both the university and later the Navy.

He took up a position as assistant house surgeon at the Leicester Infirmary before relinquishing it to join the Royal Navy. He trained at HMS Hasler and then took up his first post on HMS Devonshire as a surgeon on 21 Nov 1905. Later he was transferred to Water Witch (China Station). He spent two years in the Far East and developed a particular interest in tropical diseases. On returning to England he took up a post at the Royal Naval Hospital, Devonport. He married Eileen Mary Goslin on 2 Mar 1911 at St Marks, Ford, Plymouth (GRO Ref:Mar 1911 Devonport 5B 493) whilst stationed at the Royal Navy barracks at Devonport. In 1911 Oswald and his new bride were visiting brother in law Thomas Robinson, the County Council medical health officer at Thoresby, Leicestershire.

After postings on HMS Blenheim and another ship, he took up an appointment as Staff Surgeon on 21 November 1912. He was on active service, chiefly in the North Sea, from the outbreak of war. In 1915 he was serving on HMS Natal, a Warrior class cruiser, as one of the two ship's surgeons. He had a few hours shore leave at Christmas but was back on board on 30 Dec 1915 when the ship exploded in harbour in the Cromarty Firth shortly after 1520. She capsized ablaze within five minutes with the loss of at least 405 lives. It was suspected that cordite, notoriously unstable, combusted spontaneously, but it was never proved conclusively, which led to a large amount of speculation as to the cause. Two other ships were lost in similar circumstances and Arthur Cecil Hampshire has written up the details in “They called it Accident”, published in 1961 by William Kimber. The hull of HMS Natal is still visible, and until the Second World War warships entering and leaving Cromarty would

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Elizabeth Manterfield

Researcher: Liz Manterfield
pipe “Still” and crews would stand to attention as they passed. Oswald was awarded the 1914-15 star, and the British War and Victory medals, which were sent to his widow. He also left a son. Probate was granted on 20 Nov 1919 to Eileen Mary Ridgeway formerly Hooper who had married Geoffrey Eric Ridgeway (the son of the Bishop of Salisbury) on 21 Nov 1916. His estate was valued at £190 13s 9d. He is remembered on the Chatham Naval Memorial Panel 9.

A brother officer and fleet surgeon wrote: “It will be some consolation for us all to know that the world was the better for his life: his sterling integrity of purpose, his uprightness of character, and that personal charm that made him loved by those who came into contact with him provided a living daily example of all the best qualities of a man.”

Photos courtesy ©Richard Hooper grandson.

Sources
BMJ Jan 1916
Census returns 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Coventry Evening Telegraph 3 Jan 1916
London Gazette 22 Nov 1912
Richard Hooper, grandson
The Lancet
They called it Accident, A Cecil Hampshire 19618
TNA ADM 242

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Hooper, Staff Surg. Alfred Oswald, R.N., s. of Dr. Alfred Hooper of Burton-on-Trent, b. 1878, C., XI, I. 1895, Edin. U. and Roy. Inf., M.B., Ch.B., killed in the explosion on board H.M.S. Natal 1915

OE Doctors

Hooper, Staff Surgeon Alfred Oswald (1878-1915).
Epsom College: 1893-1895
STAFF SURGEON ALFRED OSWALD HOOPER (1878-1915). R.N., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin) [Epsom College 1893-1895. Cricket XI] was the son of Dr Alfred Hooper, of Burton-on-Trent. He received his medical education at Edinburgh University, and joined the Royal Navy in 1904 as a Staff Surgeon, but was killed during the First World War when the cruiser H.M.S. ‘Natal’ was sunk (1915). He was 37 years old.

Oswald Hooper
Hopkin, Watkin Shirley Owen

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<tr>
<th>Name: Hopkin, Watkin Shirley Owen</th>
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<td>Rank:</td>
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Hoskyns-Abrahall, Sir Theo [Chandos]

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Regiment: T/Capt. Lond. Regt. 1915-18, Officier de la Legion d'Honneur</td>
<td>Rank:</td>
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<td>Researcher:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Hoskyns-Abrahall, Sir Theo [Chandos], C.M.G., s. of dr. C. W. Hoskyns-Abrahall of Godalming, b. 1896, L.S. and P., prefect, Xi, h. XI, Brande E. Pr., l. 1915, Colonial Service, T/Capt. Lond. Regt. 1915-18, Officier de la Legion d'Honneur; Little Bogmarsh, Holm Lacy, Hereford**

Hounsfield, Philip Coupland

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<td>Regiment: Pte Artists Rifles 1918</td>
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**Hounsfield, Philip Coupland, s. of dr. S. C. Hounsfield of Stowmarket, b. 1900, L.S. and C., l. 1917, 'orthopaedic equipment specialist', Pte. Artists Rifles 1918; High Street, Witham, Essex**

Houstoun, Maj. Robert

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name: Houstoun, Maj. Robert</th>
<th>Decorations:</th>
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**Houstoun, Maj. Robert**
Houstoun, Meg. Robert, 1st Royal Dragoons, probably s. of William Houstoun of Drumsna, co. Leitrim, b. 1883, W., XV, h. XI, MacF. cup, l. 1901 for R.M.C., desp.

Howitt, Cyril Naunton

Howitt, Sir Alfred Bakewell


“He was interested for many years in the ancillary services attaching to hospital care. The profession of hospital almoners had no better friend.”

was a strong Conservative but he worked well with the little group of medical members of all parties, and was Chairman of the Parliamentary Medical Committee (1943).”

In spite of all his political activities he pursued the work of his profession with ardour and distinction. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, and a frequent participator at the meetings of the Medical, Clinical, and Therapeutic Sections. He was the author of a thesis on Grave’s Disease and a number of important papers in the medical journals. The organisation of hospital almoners claimed his special interest. He was Chairman of the executive committee of the original institute, and after its amalgamation with the Hospital Almoners Association he became President of the Institute of Hospital Almoners, as it became known. In his obituary it was said: “His addresses at its annual meetings were models of presidential utterances.” In 1928 he was made a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, and knighted in the New Years Honours in 1945, for political and public services. He was also an Esquire of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. In 1911, he married the Hon. Dorothy, daughter of the first Lord Marchamley.

Hudson, Arthur Frederick

| Birth Year: | 1894 |
| Entered Epsom College: | 1905 |
| Regiment: | Cpl. 16th Gordon Highlanders. Killed in action 1915 |
| House: | G |
| Rank: | Cpl |
| Unit: | 16 Bn, Canadian Inf |
| Buried: | Ypres Menin Gate Mem, Belgium |
| Reference: | Panel 26 |

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

Hudson Arthur Frederick Cpl 28750
16 Canadian Infantry (Gordon Highlanders)
22 April 1915

Arthur was born on 7 April 1894 in the Epsom district (GRO Ref: June 1894 epsom 2a 30) the son of Dr Arthur Bryn Hudson and his wife Thermuthis Rose nee Booker. His parents had married in 1893 (GRO Ref Sept 1893 Lewisham London 1d 1783). In the 1891 census the family was living in The Street, Cobham, Surrey. Arthur’s father was a 35 year old medical practitioner, his mother was 33. Arthur was 6, and he had three younger siblings: Harold aged 5, Kathleen 2 and Gwendoline who was 4 months old. They employed a nurse, a nurserymaid and a parlour maid.

In 1901 the family was still living in Cobham. Another brother, Donald Bryn would arrive in 1904.

Arthur joined Epsom College’s Lower School as a Surrey Scholar on 21 September 1905. His father had registered him and gave their address as Vine House, Cobham. Arthur’s brother also went to the College joining in 1909. In 1906 he came 11 out of 18 boys in the Lower III form. He progressed to the Upper School in Granville House. He was usually in the bottom quarter of his form academically: in the Lower fourth Form 1907 he came 21st out of 25, 13th out of 19 in Modern Middle II, 20th out of 21 in Modern Middle I, 1910 13 out of 22 in Mod Middle 1 again, and in 1911 18th out of 20 modern Fifth. The 1911 census recorded him at Epsom College and he left in July. He was Sergeant-Drummer in the OTC and gained cricket colours in 1911. Although he did not excel at rugby at School he occasionally substituted as half-back in the 1st XV. On leaving school he played regularly for Blackheath “A” team.

The 1911 census recorded his family still living in the 10 roomed Vine House in Cobham. His parents confirmed that they had given birth to five children all of whom were still living. The family employed three servants: a children’s nurse, a cook and a parlour maid. This was also the address from which his father worked in the medical practice of Hooley and Hudson.

Arthur’s chief interest was in flying and he would often spend holidays working in the sheds at Brooklands. One of the original members of the College Aero Section, he did a good deal towards building the glider that was launched at the school and his lectures revealed an exceptional knowledge of the subject. He continued his interest in Canada and during the winter of 1913 he gave a course of very successful lectures to the YMCA in Victoria BC.

He emigrated to Canada with his family in April 1912 and worked as a bank clerk in Victoria, British Colombia where he became a prominent member of the Wanderers CC. He gave up his career in the bank to become a school master at the University School Victoria where his games and OTC experience stood him in good stead and he became a popular master. On the outbreak of war he volunteered for service. He attended an army medical board on 22 Sept 1914. He was 6ft tall, had a 33 ins chest expanding to 37½ins. He had a dark complexion, brown hair and eyes, vaccination marks on his left arm and a mole on his left flank.

He joined the 50th Canadian Gordon Highlanders and came over to Salisbury, Wiltshire with the 1st Contingent. The 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish), CEF, was authorized on 1 September 1914 and embarked for Britain on 28 September 1914. It disembarked in France on 15 February 1915, where it fought as part of the 3rd Infantry Brigade, 1st Canadian Division in France and Flanders until the end of the war. The battalion was disbanded on 30 August 1920.

He went out to France early in 1915 as a lance corporal and was killed at Langemarck when the Canadians saved the situation. He is remembered on the Menin Gate Ypres Panels 24-30.

Sources
Census returns 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Registers M/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Canadian Army records

Hudson, Arthur Frederick, s. of dr. A. B. Hudson of Cobham, b. 1894, L.S. and G., l. 1911, bank clerk at Victoria, B.C., afterwards schoolmaster, Cpl. 6th Canadian Gordon Highlanders, brother of H. B. H. (1909), killed in action 1915

Hudson, Godfrey
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: Pte R.A.F. 1917-18

Hudson, Harold Byrn
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.C. 1914-18

Hudson, Rupert Vaughan
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: Lt. Herts Yeo. 1914-18

RUPERT VAUGHAN HUDSON (1895-1967). L.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.)
– Pioneer of Thyroid Surgery.

Rupert Vaughan Hudson (1895-1967) [Epsom College 1906-1912] was the son of T. W. Hudson, surgeon of Bootle, Lancashire [Epsom College 1878-1882]. At Epsom College he was a prefect, and captain of the Rugby XV and Captain of Cricket XI. He received his medical training at the Middlesex Hospital. During the First World War he served with the Hertfordshire Yeomanry and Cavalry Reserve (1914-1918), attaining commissioned rank. After the War he was appointed lecturer in operative surgery and Honorary Consultant Surgeon at the Middlesex Hospital; and Consulting Surgeon to the Connaught Hospital, and St Saviour’s Hospital. He was an Examiner for the Universities of London and Cambridge, and a member of the committee for therapeutic trials of penicillin and streptomycin. On his appointment to the surgical staff at the Middlesex Hospital he was at first junior surgeon on Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor’s firm, where: “Gordon-
Hughes, Brig. Hugh Llewelyn Glyn

When the Great War broke out, Glyn Hughes joined up at once with the Artist’s Rifles only to return in 1915 to finish his medical training. He qualified on 6 August 1915 and was soon after gazetted as a Temporary Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) and began an outstanding distinguished military career as medical officer with the 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment and the Grenadier Guards, winning the D.S.O. and bar, and the M.C. “He was the most courageous doctor I ever served under. I first met him at Plug Street in 1915, he became a legend in our Division (25th) a brave man whose life in the trenches would be summed up in these words, ‘Selfless devotion to duty.’” (G.H. Swindell). Glyn Hughes served for most of the First World War with the 1st Wiltshires: ‘Hughie was involved in many actions over the first two weeks of July 1916, the same actions that resulted in most of his battalion officers being killed. He was very lucky on several occasions including one when his dugout was shelled while he was amputating a German NCO’s foot. The shell killed the German, but Hughie escaped without a scratch.’ (Bernice Lerner, Glyn Hughes’s biographer) Hughes’s first decoration, the DSO, was awarded for his actions in the Leipzig Salient on the Somme on 6 July 1916: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations. He went out in broad daylight, under heavy fire, and bandaged seven wounded men in the open, lying out in an exposed spot for one and a half hours. A nightfall he led a party through a heavy barrage and brought seven men back. Initially he was recommended for the Victoria Cross. Hughie himself told of the occasion of his first bar to the DSO as a temporary Captain: There was a bomb incident going on and, being good with a cricket ball, he took his part by standing in the trench and continuously throwing Mills Bombs. Unfortunately, as he swung his arm back, someone’s head got in the way of it and the grenade was knocked out of his hand and into the bottom of the trench, falling into a box of primed grenades. He quickly picked it up and threw it over the parapet, just as it exploded. The citation mentioned conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty but left out the details. Again, during the Ludendorff Offensive in 1918, Hughie was still working without wearing a Geneva Cross, badged to the Wiltshire Regiment. In the area of Frémicourt, near Bapaume, the 1st Wiltshires were caught by shelling which also killed the MO and the regimental Aid Post. The citation for Hughes Military Cross reads: He worked day and night in the open, in spite of the heaviest shell and machine-gun fire, tending the wounded and helping them back to safety, with a spirit of cheerfulness and self-sacrifice rarely seen. After being wounded he still continued to perform his duties, until the wound necessitated his evacuation. The wound, however was a bad one, entering just under his femoral artery and penetrating the hip joint, which became infected and took a long time to heal. However, Hughie had recovered sufficiently to return to the Front in time to serve out the last weeks of the War with the Grenadier Guards. Glyn Hughes also won the Croix de Guerre avec palme during the First World War. ‘It’s impossible to think of France in World War I without thinking of Glyn Hughes... By rights he should have been back in the regimental aid post waiting for casualties to be brought back. But not him, he was up there in the attack going over the top with the men, attending them as they got wounded That’s where I remember the occasion when he amputated some fellow’s foot with a pocket knife and saved his life.’ (Captain Stanley Parker, who served with Glyn Hughes). Glyn Hughes by then a Brigadier, R.A.M.C., was in charge of the evacuation of casualties from the Bergen Belsen concentration camp, in the Second World War.
The First Allied Medical Officer to enter the Belsen Concentration Camp after the Second World War.

“His striking appearance – a piercing eye amid strong features – and his capacity for quick and confident decision made him a natural leader, commanding loyalty and respect from subordinates. He loved action, and if it didn’t come to him, he sought it.”


On April 15, 1945, while attached to the 11th Armoured Division, Brigadier Hugh Llewellyn Glyn Hughes became the first Allied Medical Officer to enter the concentration camp at Bergen-Belsen. He immediately took control of the camp and set about controlling the two main issues that faced him, the control of a typhus outbreak, and the distribution of food. He also took control of the local hospital, removing the German patients to treat his new charges. The hospital was later renamed the Glyn Hughes Hospital in his honour.

Hugh (‘Hughie’) Llewellyn Glyn Hughes was born in Swansea, South Wales, the son of Dr H. G. Hughes, but spent the first two years of his life at Ventersburg, South Africa, after his father emigrated to take up a medical post. When Hugh was only two years old, he and his mother returned to England after his father died from septicaemia that followed pricking his finger during an operation. At the age of seven he was diagnosed with having curvature of the spine and for a period was confined to a spinal carriage, but having put medical problems behind him he entered Epsom College at the age of eleven. His career at Epsom was extraordinary. He was Head Prefect, Captain of the Rugby XV, the Shooting VIII, and the Gymnastics VIII. He was awarded the Harvey, Wakley, Brandle Good Conduct, Elocution and Brandle English Prizes, and apart from these honours he was awarded the Ann Hood and Carr Exhibitions, as well as an Entrance Scholarship to University College Hospital, where he won the Fellowes’ Medal for Clinical Medicine.

Hugh Glyn Hughes joined the British Army in 1915 and during the First World War served as a medical officer with the 1st Battalion, the Wiltshire regiment, and later with the Grenadier Guards. He had a distinguished war record and, in 1916, was awarded the D.S.O., his citation reading: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations. He went out in broad daylight, under heavy fire, and bandaged seven wounded men in the open, lying out in an exposed spot for one and a half hours. At nightfall he led a party through a heavy barrage and brought the seven men back.” Within four months he was awarded a Bar to his D.S.O., and later the Military Cross (M.C.), and the Croix de Guerre avec Palmes. He was mentioned in despatches on several occasions. His D.S.O. Bar citation read: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations. On four separate days he showed utter contempt for danger when collecting and tending the wounded under heavy shell fire.” After the War he became a General Practitioner at Chagford, Devon.

At the commencement of the Second World War Glyn Hughes was sent to France with the Fifth Infantry Division, and after the retreat of the British army he devoted his time to training medical units for active service. In 1944 he was promoted to Brigadier and became Deputy Director Medical Services to the Eighth Corps and the Second Army, and Chief Medical Officer in the advance. One year later, while attached to the 11th Armoured Division, he took control of the German concentration camp at Bergen-Belsen. The distribution of food presented a considerable problem and on the first night of the liberation a riot broke out among the inmates over limited rations. This led the German guards to react by shooting and killing several of them. To prevent this happening again Brigadier Glyn Hughes threatened to execute one German soldier for each inmate killed. In 1945 Brigadier Glyn Hughes was one of the main witnesses for the prosecution in the Belsen Trial, and for his actions at Belsen he was awarded the Order of St John of Jerusalem and the Legion of Merit (USA). He also received a second Bar to his D.S.O., for action during the attempted relief of Arnhem, earlier in the campaign, where as the most senior surviving officer, he took command of the tanks. Later that year he was awarded the C.B.E. Returning home after the War Glyn Hughes was appointed Commandant of the RAMC Depot at Crookham and Inspector of Training.

Brigadier Glyn Hughes left the Army in 1947, and was appointed the Senior Medical Officer of the South East Metropolitan Hospital Board. In this position he played an important role in the administration of the newly created National Health Service, and in 1952 he was instrumental in the formation of the Royal College of General Practitioners. He was then appointed Honorary Physician to HM the Queen, President of the Harveian Society, and Medical Officer to the Red Cross Society.

Outside of medicine and his military career, Glyn Hughes was an outstanding rugby player. After Epsom he played club rugby for Blackheath R.F.C., and in 1912 was selected to play for the Barbarians against Penarth, Cardiff and Swansea. He played for the Barbarians on no less than 20 times and captained the team for three matches in 1919 and 1920. He also captained the United Hospitals team, and played for Devon, Middlesex and London Counties. After retiring from playing rugby Glyn Hughes was chosen to act as referee in the Great Britain tour of Argentina and was appointed President of the Barbarians. In The Official History of the Barbarian Football Club, written by Nigel Starmer-Smith, a former English international and master at Epsom College (1967-1971), it was noted that ‘Hughie’ Glyn Hughes “remained an avuncular figure, not averse to the high jinks on a Saturday night that he himself had enjoyed in his playing days, but insistent on a certain discipline, imparted with a curt word or a piercing look, that made his feelings quite clear. One knew what was expected, and if as a player, one stepped beyond the bounds, one made sure that Hughie didn’t find out.” He died in Edinburgh on November 24, 1973, just three days after watching the international rugby game between Scotland and Argentina.
Brigadier Glyn Hughes

HLG Hughes as Head Boy, 1910

Glyn Hughes in his mobile command post
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<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>House</th>
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<td>T/Surg. R.N. 1914-18, d. 1926</td>
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|                    |            |                       |                         |       |      | 1889, W., l. 1903 for Blundells, farmer and developer of building sites, T/Lt. R.A. 1914-18, said to have died in 1944 |


<p>| Hunt, John Reginald Lilly | Decorations: |</p>
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<th>Unit</th>
<th>Died</th>
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<td>5th Bn Sherwood For</td>
<td>01/07/16</td>
<td>Gommecourt, France</td>
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**HUNT John Reginald Lilly 2nd Lieutenant 5 bn Sherwood Foresters att to 139 Trench Mortar Bty**
KIA 1 July 1916  (newspaper obit states 2 July)

John was born on 10 September 1896 (GRO Ref: Dec 1896 Shardlow (Derbyshire) 7b 514) son of Dr John Aspinall Hunt and his wife Minnie Beatrice nee Lilly. His parents had married on 18 Sept 1889 at Spondon, Derbyshire (GRO Ref: Sept 1889 Shardlow 7b 632). He was baptised on 8 October 1896 in the church in the ancient village of Ockbrook.

In 1891 before John junior was born, his parents were living at The Poplars in Green Lane, Ockbrook. John’s father was a 42 years old, and had worked as the dispenser in the local infirmary. In 1891 he was working as a general medical practitioner. His wife, Minnie, was 21 and they had a baby daughter Helen Aspinall Hunt.

By 1901 they were living in Brookfield in Victoria Avenue, Ockbrook. John senior was working as a physician and surgeon and his family had grown. They had four children: Helen aged 10, Beatrice 7, John Reginald 4 and Jessica 2. They employed a governess, a cook and a housemaid.

On 10 January 1910 John took part in a fund raising fancy dress ball in aid of the junior branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children where the children dressed to represent children in different ages.

In the 1911 census the Hunts were still living at Brookfield which was described as a 14 room house. Only Jessica and her sister Geraldine aged 7 were living at home with their parents. The couple confirmed that they had had five children all of whom were living.

John entered Epsom College’s Lower School in 1911. He progressed into Carr house in the Upper School, but did not thrive academically coming close to the bottom of the Upper III and Lower IVth forms. He left in 1913. He had been a member of the School’s OTC and joined the University College Reading OTC.

John joined the army straight from university and gained a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in 2/5 Sherwood Foresters 22 Mar 1915. He went to France June 1916

He was killed in the advance on Gommecourt on 1 July 1916 in which 3inch Stokes Mortars were introduced. The 139 Trench Mortar battery was to follow over the top with 6 Stokes Mortars. Three more were positioned in the trenches to provide covering artillery. German artillery took most of the guns out in the trenches. Two reached enemy lines but found they were either without any ammunition or lacked sufficient men to operate them. Not one of the guns fired in action. John lost his life during the advance.

Servant Pte William Pickering wrote to John’s parents “With much regret I write these few lines of condolence to you. I was servant to your son and was with him to the last and think it is my duty to inform you of his sad but brilliant end. He was foremost in the attack and urging his men on when he was shot through the head death being instantaneous. Our sympathy goes out to you in your sad bereavement. I and the battery are proud to think we had such a good officer, he was loved and respected by all. Sgt Green also signs this letter.”

He was buried at Gommecourt Wood New Cemetery Foncquevillers grave II E 4.

He was awarded British and Victory medals which were sent to his father. At the time of his death his parents were living in Brookfield, Borrowdale, Derbyshire.

At the time of CWGC registration his parents living at Woodstock, Shalford Surrey. He is also remembered on the Shalford and Reading University College War Memorials.

Sources
- Census 1891,1901,1911
- CWGC
- Derbyshire Daily Telegraph 18 July 1916
- “Lack of Offensive Spirit? The 46th (North Midland) division at Gommecourt” by Alan MacDonald
- Free BMD
- Medal Index card
- TNA File—not found
Hunter, Maj.-Gen. George Douglas

Major-General George Douglas Hunter
1860-1922

George Douglas Hunter (GDH) was born in Colaba, Bombay, Maharashtra, India, second son of Brigade Surgeon George Yeates Hunter (1831-1899) Indian Army and his wife Elizabeth Cornish (1831-1903). Colaba is situated on the southern tip of the peninsula of Bombay (now Mumbai) pushing out into the Indian Ocean just south of the Naval Station. There were three sons and a daughter in the family and a younger brother, later Lieutenant-Colonel George Yeates Cobb Hunter (1868-1932), also went to Epsom College and served in the Bengal Medical Service4.

GDH and his sister Mary were both born in India but by 1871 they and an older brother, Edward, were living in Reigate with their mother’s two unmarried sisters. In 1876 GDH went to Epsom College at the age of 16 and both he and his younger brother did well there. GDH won the Hodgkin Prize, played in the rugger XV and was captain of the cricket X13. He left the College in 1879 to read medicine at St George’s Hospital, London.

In 1883 he became a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons and the following year a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries. That same year he joined the Army Medical Service - the Royal Army Medical Corps was not established until 1898 - as a probationer surgeon and in August was promoted to surgeon (LG 25390 p3872). He immediately set off for Egypt and took part in the Nile Expedition of 1884-85 being awarded the Khedive’s Star and Nile Medal with clasp1. Later that year he served with the Sudan Frontier Field Force and took part in the action of Gumaizah recognised with a clasp to the Sudan medal6. In 1888 he became a Staff Surgeon and was seconded to serve with the Egyptian Army (LG 25821 p3012). In 1892 he received another award from the Khedive, which The Queen (Victoria) gave the five officers who received them, permission to wear. The Order was conferred “by His Highness the Khedive of Egypt authorised by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan in recognition of their services whilst actually and entirely employed beyond Her Majesty’s Dominions in the service of His Highness” (LG 26320 p4889). The insignia was in the case of Surgeon-Captain Gordon Douglas Hunter the Order of Osmanieh 4th Class (see picture below).

On 17th October 1895 he married Elfrida Hannah Robinson (1875-1930) in Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire. Their first child, a son, Jack Marcus (1899-1975), was born in Hereford, the year in which GDH’s father died, and a daughter, Isabel Mary (1904-1952) born in Naini Tal India, was to follow in 1904.

In August 1896 he was promoted to Surgeon-Major (LG 26771 p4819) and in September was mentioned in despatches (MID) by Sir Henry Kitchener, then a Major-General, for his services in Egypt whilst serving with the Egyptian Army during the campaign to reconquer the Dongola Province. Kitchener paid tribute in his despatch (LG 26791 p 6001 – 6006) to the way in which the medical staff had to contend with a severe outbreak of cholera amongst the soldiers one medical officer dying of the disease. “All officers of the medical staff worked indefatigably throughout the other phases of the campaign”. In addition to his MID GDH received the silver medal of the Dongola campaign6 and was awarded the DSO for his service in the field (LG26795 p6271) the insignia being presented by Her Majesty in February 18971.

In December 1898, still with the Egyptian Army, he was mentioned in despatches again by Kitchener of Khartoum (LG 27031 p7970), who signed his despatch as a Major-General and Sirdar, Egyptian Army, for his service during “operations in the Sudan subsequent to the defeat of the Khalifa at Omdurman”. The Khalifa Sherif and his son Sheikh el Din and a small following had retired southwest after the Battle of Khartoum and following a small mopping up operation Kitchener informed his superiors at the War Office that “the country may now be said to be practically clear of Dervish Forces”. GDH received the Egyptian Medal with two clasps, the Nile and the Expedition to Khartoum4. In 1904 GDH was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and continued to serve with the Egyptian Army as their Principal Medical Officer from 1905 until 1908. In August 1908 King Edward VII “was pleased to give
and grant unto Lieutenant-Colonel (local Colonel) George Douglas Hunter, D.S.O., Royal Army Medical Corps, attached to the Egyptian Army, His Majesty’s Royal licence and authority to accept and wear the Insignia of the Second Class of the Imperial Ottoman Order of the Medjidie conferred upon him by His Highness the Khedive of Egypt, authorized by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan of Turkey, in recognition of valuable services rendered by him” (LG 28172 p6299).

The Order of the Medjidie was a military and knightly order of the Ottoman Empire instituted in 1851 by Sultan Abdülmeclid for outstanding services to the state by foreign nationals. It was last awarded in 1917. The order had five classes and only 150 people were awarded the Second Class Order by the Sultan. The Order of Osmanieh was established in 1862 by Sultan Abdüllaziz and awarded for outstanding services to the state by both Turkish and foreign nationals be they civilian or military. Originally with three classes it was expanded to four in 1867 and finally five in 1893. Both medals were worn by British Officers after British gallantry or campaign medals. It would appear that the Sultans were prepared to delegate the task of presenting the award to the Khedive of Egypt on suitable occasions.

From 1909 until 1913 GDH was back home as Commandant of the RAMC School of Instruction living at the time in Farnborough Hampshire. He was promoted to Colonel in September 1913 and was soon to participate in the Great War. On the 7th November 1914 at the age of 54 he entered the war zone in France.

It would appear that he did not remain long in France, his knowledge and experience in India and Egypt no doubt leading in December 1915 to his promotion as temporary Surgeon General and Director of Medical Services in the East African Expeditionary Force (LG. 29444 p830). Here he was to serve again with great distinction and in January 1916 this was recognised by the award of the CMG for “Meritorious operations in the Field” (LG 29438 p565). A history of the war in East Africa refers to the arduous conditions experienced there by the Red Cross. Beneath a picture of a horse drawn wagon crossing the Wiri Wiri River at a time when the Germans from German East Africa were attacking outposts in Uganda: “The arduous work of the Red Cross in equatorial Africa can well be imagined. Surgeon General G.D. Hunter C.M.G., D.S.O., medical officers and personnel were specially praised in General Smuts despatch”.

The extract from the despatch by Lt. General the Hon J.C.Smuts, C.in C. East Africa dated 30th April 1916 reads as follows:-

“Exceptionally heavy work, too, has been thrown upon the medical officers and personnel. All wounded have been treated and evacuated expeditiously, and the number of sick who passed daily through the hands of the medical authorities, more especially since the cessation of active Operations, has been very great. Great credit is due to Surgeon-General G. D. Hunter, C.M.G., D.S.O., and his assistants” (LG 29630 p6133).

GDH was formally MID in the follow up despatch dated June 30th 1916 (LG 29648 p5464). It is of interest that he was already referred to here as being a Commander of the Bath (C.B.) although this was not posted in the Gazette until 1917 (EG 13048 p290) and was “for Service in the Field”. He remained in East Africa until March 19184 and in April 1918 was again MID by the C in C at that time Lt. General Sir J.L van Deventer:

“The climate has been most trying to Europeans and Indian troops, and even the African, troops have suffered severely. The personnel of the Medical Services have suffered equally from climatic effects. I cannot speak too highly of the enthusiasm, and good work done by officers and men of the various Medical Services under the command of Surgeon-General G. D. Hunter, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who have made every effort for the treatment, care and comfort of the sick and wounded, at times under most exceptional and trying conditions” (LG 30611 p4108).

In May 1918, now aged 58, he finally retired with the honorary rank of Major-General (LG 30737 p6879). Throughout a long and distinguished career both as a doctor and soldier he had spent nearly all his time abroad in areas where the work was both dangerous and arduous. He was clearly a leader of men who led from the front a characteristic which earned gratitude and recognition on many occasions from his senior commanders.

Sadly his well earned retirement was all too short. He died at his home Cadbury House, Yatton, in North Somerset on the 18th April 1922 aged 614 leaving his estate to his widow Elfrieda. She moved in due course to Fleet in Hampshire keeping the name of Cadbury House for her residence there. She died on 18th April 1930 her estate passing to her son, then a retired Lt Commander R.N. and her daughter.

George Douglas Hunter (1860-1922) [Epsom College 1876-1879] was the son of Brigade Surgeon George Yeates Hunter, Bombay Medical Services, and brother of Lieutenant-Colonel George Yeates Cobb Hunter, I.M.S. [Epsom College 1881-1886]. He had a distinguished school career, being Captain of the Cricket XI, a prominent member of the Rugby XV, and winner of the Hodgkin Prize. He completed his medical training at St George’s Hospital, passing the M.R.C.S. (Eng.) in 1883, and the L.S.A. in 1884. In 1884, he entered the R.A.M.C. as a surgeon, attained the rank of Colonel in 1913, and was appointed temporary Surgeon-General while acting as Director of Medical Services in East Africa (1915-1918). George Hunter’s list of war services extended over most of his entire career. He served in the Sudan from 1884 until 1886, winning the Khedive’s bronze star, the Medjidieh, Second Class, and he was mentioned in despatches four times. In 1886 he served in the Dongola campaign, was mentioned in despatches, in the London Gazette, 1898, and was awarded the D.S.O. and Egyptian medal with two clasps. He took part in the Battle of Khartoum (1898), and was awarded the Sudan medal and clasps to his Egyptian medal. During the First World War he was appointed Director of Medical Services of the East African Expeditionary Force (1915-1918) and during this period was mentioned in despatches six times. He was awarded the C.M.G. and the C.B. From 1888 until 1897 and from 1905 until 1908 he was seconded to the Egyptian Army as Principal Medical Officer, and from 1909 until 1913 he was Commandant of the R.A.M.C. School of Instruction.
Hurford, Charles Corry

**Decorations:**

- HMM? □

**Birth Year:** 1877

**Entered Epsom College:** 1892

**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.E. 1914-18

**House:** HMM?

**Rank:** T/Capt. R.E.

Hutcheson, Lt-Col. George

**Decorations:**

- HMM? □

**Birth Year:** 1874

**Entered Epsom College:** 1890

**Regiment:** Surg. Bengal Army

**House:** HMM?

**Rank:** Surgeon

Hutchinson, Basil Stuart Cayley

**Decorations:**

- HMM? □

**Birth Year:** 1889

**Entered Epsom College:** 1898

**Regiment:** Lieut, E.Yorks Regt. Missing, presumed killed 1918

**House:** G

**Rank:** Lt

**Unit:** East Yorkshire Regt

**Died:** 20/09/14 aged 25

**Buried:** La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre, France

**Reference:** ?

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*Wikipedia*

The Order of Mejidie

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

*Hutcheson, Basil Stuart Cayley, 1 bn East Yorkshire Regiment*

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*


*Elizabeth Manterfield*
Basil was born at 50 Norfolk Terrace, W London on 18 Feb 1889 the son of Arthur Cayley Hutchinson and his wife Grace Elizabeth nee Moody. His parents had married on 14 Dec 1882 in the church at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. Basil was baptised on 7 August 1889 at St Leonard’s, Shoreditch. At the time the family was living at 36 Great Eastern Street and his father was a medical doctor.

In the 1891 census the family was still living at 36 Great Eastern Street. Basil’s father was 41 and had been born in India. He was working as a physician and surgeon. Basil’s mother was 37 and her younger sister, Kate, was also living with them. They had both been born in Nova Scotia. Basil had two older siblings: 8 year old Lena who had been born in Nova Scotia, and Gladys who was 4 and had been born in Brighton. A medical student, William Wells, was living with the family and they employed a domestic servant. In 1892 another sister, Gwyneth Vivian, was born.

Basil’s father died on 27 July 1894 at 2 Apsley Villas, Horne Lane, Acton. He left £2082 4s 4d, but by the time Basil’s mother had got the older girls into St Anne’s school, Reigate and set up her boarding house business there was very little money left for Basil’s education. She therefore applied for a Foundation Scholarship for Basil to go to Epsom College. Her application was successful and Basil entered Epsom College Granville House as a Foundationer in 1898.

In 1901 Basil’s mother was running a boarding house at 53 Cambridge Terrace, Paddington. His aunt Kate Moody was still living with the family. Basil left Epsom College in 1907 and opted for a career in the Regular Army. In July 1907 he took exam for Royal Military Academy/Royal Military College. At the time he was living at 5 Granville Place, Portman Sq W London.

By 1911 most of Basil had joined the East Yorkshire Regiment, but while the Regiment was in India Lieutenant Basil Hutchinson and others were still in London. He left UK on 12 April 1912 on the P&O ship Arabia bound for Bombay, India.

When war broke out 1 Bn East Yorkshire Regiment (Duke of York’s Own) went to France on 14 August 1914 with 18th Brigade 6th division as part of the BEF. Basil was killed during the battle of the Aisne. Initially he was posted as missing but a number of witnesses provided statements eg .

Pte Coles 8424 B Coy 1 Bn E Yorkshire Regt stated that Basil had been killed in the battle of the Aisne valley. He saw him lie down after being hit in the head; he was the first officer they lost. 

Sgt Major Lock B Coy stated that he fell between the British lines and the enemy’s during an advance in the Aisne Valley, but he had no further knowledge.

Further enquiries concerning the circumstances of his death made through the USA brought no result. At first his mother asked for official acceptance of his death to be deferred. On 26 Jan 1916 his mother wrote “I have not heard of anything further concerning my son, Basil Stewart Cayley Hutchinson. I still have every hope that at the end of the war he will turn up and I have no reason for thinking otherwise. But by July 1919 with no official news of what had happened to him and the lapse of time it had to be concluded that he had died. Letters of administration for his estate, valued at £52, were granted to his mother on 16 Oct 1919. She also received Basil’s 1914 Star medals, with British War and Victory clasps, a death plaque and a scroll.

Sources
Baptismal register
Census 189181901,1911
Free BMD
Medal Index cards
TNA WO339/7188 long no. 14375

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Hutchinson, Basil Stewart Cayley, Lieut., E. Yorks Regt., s. of dr. E. de W. Hutchinson of Bridlington, b. 1889, G., XV, l.

Innes-Smith, Stuart William

Birth Year: 1899
Regiment: Lt. I.A. Killed in action 1918

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Irving, Alfred

Birth Year: 1899
Regiment: Lt. I.A. Killed in action 1918
IRVING Alfred 15 bn Ludhiana Sikhs attached 14th King George’s Own Ferozepore Sikhs
26 October 1918

Alfred was born on 19 April 1899 in Georgetown, British Guiana, the youngest surviving son of Dr Major Henry Court Irving and his wife, Annie nee Farrer. Details of the family’s life are provided for David Piercey Irving Alfred’s parents nicknamed him ‘Booming’ because of the noise he made around the house as a small boy. Alfred travelled from Demerara to Southampton in England on the ship Oruba arriving on 27 June 1910. He joined his brother David at Epsom College, in Wilson House, in 1912 and like his brother became a prefect. He had an undistinguished career academically, usually finishing in the bottom 25% of his year but he was captain of the Cricket XI in 1916. His critique described him as “showing promise as a wicket-keeper. A quick scorer with a useful off drive.” There is a record of Alfred aged 15 and brother David, aged 17, returning First Class on Tagus from Trinidad to England, arriving Sept 1914. He left Epsom College in 1916 to go to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He was gazetted as Second-Lieutenant in 1917 and served with the 15th Ludhiana Sikhs in Mesopotamia. Alfred was later attached to the 14th King George’s Own Ferozepore Sikhs and took part in General Allenby’s campaign in Palestine. He was killed in action at Mushag, Mesopotamia, on 26 October, 1918, only three days before Turkey’s capitulation and fifteen days before the Armistice, while attempting to help a wounded Sepoy during an attack on a Turkish position. An account of Alfred’s death, recorded by No. 4853 Sepoy (Santa Singh) of the 14th King George’s Own Ferozepore Sikhs, was sent to Alfred’s parents by the Adjutant of his regiment. Part of Sepoy Santa Singh’s account reads: ‘The place where I was lying was quite safe as it had a natural cover from the enemy’s fire, but Lieut. Irving would have to pass the place where I was hit to come to see me. He insisted on coming to see me to bind my wound and give me water. He started in my direction and when he was about 15 yards away from me was hit. I called him by name several times, but alas, he did not answer me. I discovered he had been hit by four machine- gun bullets somewhere above the hip. He never moved again’.

At the time of his death his family was residing at 7 Rochester Terrace, Edinburgh. His older brother Second Lieutenant David Irving, Royal Scots Fusiliers fell at Guillemont on 30 July 1916. The Government of India issued the British War and Victory medals in his name to his family. After the death of Alfred’s father in 1929, his mother returned to British Guiana and there is a memorial plaque to Alfred and his brother in St George’s cathedral Georgetown. He is also remembered on Panel 52 of the Basra memorial in Iraq.

Sources
Census 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Medal Index cards
Times 29 Nov 1918
The Farrar Family by Richard Farrar and Helen Nedham
Shena Ward, grand-daughter of James Irving

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Irving, Alfred, brother of D. P. I. (1911), b. 1899, W., prefect, XI, I. 1916, T/2nd Lt. I.A., killed in action 1918
David was born on 5 June 1897 in Hopetown, British Guiana, the son of Dr Major Henry Court Irving and Annie nee Farrer. David’s father had been born in India, gone to school in Scotland and studied medicine at Edinburgh University. Henry went to British Guiana in 1888 to join the Government Medical Service and became one of British Guiana’s top physicians and a specialist in Leprosy. He and Annie married in All Saints church, New Amsterdam on 8 April 1890. Although Henry did not retire and return to Edinburgh until 1916, the family was recorded in the 1911 Census living in a 5 room house at 6 Kimbolton Road, Bedford. Henry was 48, Annie 46, and they had had seven children, six of whom were still living. David aged 13 and three siblings, Doris aged 15, Alfred 11 and Audrey 8 were with them. He had two other older brothers.
James born in 1891, and Thomas in 1892. A younger brother Nigel born in 1906 died of Blackwater Fever in 1909. David's father enrolled him to start at Epsom College, in Wilson House, on 2 May 1911. In his first term in the Upper Third form David finished 19th out of 25 boys, but he must have shown potential because he skipped the Lower Fourth Form to join the Middle Fourth. For the next three years he managed to finish in the top 33% of his year (usually 25 boys) and had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster in 1912, despite being absent for much of the summer term. He spent his last year in the Modern Fifth form, but was absent for the exams and finished 22nd out of 24 boys. He became a prefect in 1914 and was Head of House. His brother Alfred joined him there in 1912. He was a keen sportsman with all-round ability. He played in the Wilson House rugby team and in the College Second XV, but his forte was cricket. He played in the first Cricket XI in 1914 and was Captain the following year. The Epsomian, critiqued his cricket abilities as follows: “A stylish bat, with a variety of good strokes; hits brilliantly, when set; but is apt to throw away his wicket before he has got the measure of the bowling. An exceptionally good field. A keen and energetic player. He was Fives captain and champion and also played in the College hockey team. David applied successfully for the Royal Military College, Sandhurst coming 149th in the entrance exam (number of candidates not known) in June 1915. The army gave him the opportunity to pursue his love of cricket and he became captain the RMC's cricket XI. Second-Lieutenant David Piercy Irving was gazetted in January 1916 and served with the 3rd Battalion The Royal Scots Fusiliers (21st Foot). He went missing presumed killed in action on Sunday 30 July 1916 while attached to 2nd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, 90th Bde, 30th Div at Gué helmet, during the Battle of the Somme. The Royal Scots Fusiliers had taken all their objectives including Montauban Village on 1 July 1916, Maltz Horn Farm on 7 July and Maricourt 11 July. On 30 July they were ordered to secure the area around Gué helmet village about 5 km north of the River Somme. The Bn had to fight without artillery support and was almost annihilated, 17 officers and 633 ranks being killed or captured. These losses were comparable to losses of almost any unit engaged on the notorious first day of the Somme battles. It was in this action that David lost his life. He has no known grave, but is remembered on Pier and Face 3C on Thiepval Memorial, Somme, between the villages of Bapaume and Albert, France. Gué helmet, Somme, France. He was 19. His brother James (Jim) had been wounded a few weeks earlier.
Add photo of David and Jim
At the time of his death his father was still in the British Guiana Medical Service but his mother was living at 7 Rochester Terrace, Edinburgh. She wrote in her diary: “David-gone from us.” He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father at 59, High Street Georgetown in February 1923.
Sources:
Argosy Newspaper Georgetown
Census return 1911
EC biographies
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Medal Index Card
TNA file WO 339/58336 long no. 131157

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Irving, David Piercy, s. of dr. M. H. C. Irving of Demarara, b. 1897, W., prefect, XI (capt.), h. XI, l. 1915, T/2nd Lt. Scots Fus., brother of A. l. (1912), missing, believed killed, 1916

Add photo of David and Jim
David Irving outside Wilson House, 1915

David Piercy Irving at Sandhurst

Jim and David Irving in 1916
Ive, Cyrus

Birth Year: 1899 | Entered Epsom College: 1913 | House: HMM? □

Researcher:

Jackson, Basil Fletcher

Birth Year: 1898 | Entered Epsom College: 1909 | House: HMM? □
Regiment: F. Lt. R.A.F. 1917-18 | Rank

Researcher:

Jackson, Francis Seymour

Birth Year: 1869 | Entered Epsom College: 1883 | House: HMM? □
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18 | Rank

Researcher:

Jackson, Henry Beecher

Birth Year: 1892 | Entered Epsom College: 1892 | House: HMM? □

Researcher:
Epsom College Register 1855-1954


James, David Watkin

Entered Epsom College: 1888
Regiment: Pte. A.S.C. 1914-18

James, Vincent Coram

Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1916-18

Jeaffreson, Dudley

Entered Epsom College: 1886
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Jeffery, Tom Forbes

Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.H.A. Died of wounds 1918

Reference: IX. F. 32.
Jeffery Tom Forbes 2nd Lieutenant, 156th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

DOW 16 Apr 1918 aged 19

Tom was born on 7 Dec 1898 (GRO Ref: Dec 1898 Barton Regis, Glos 6a 54) at the Capital and Counties Bank, Redland, Bristol, the only son of Thomas George Jeffery and his wife, Constance Lillie née Forbes. His parents had married in 1897 (GRO Ref: Sept qtr 1897 Portsea 2b 1012). Tom was baptised at St Anselm’s Church, Clifton, Bristol on 8 Jan 1899. Interestingly his mother had been born at sea. He was educated initially at Eastmans Royal Naval Academy, Northwood Park, Crawley, West Winchester and was recorded there in the 1901 census.

In the 1911 census he was staying with his maternal grandmother 73 year old Eleanor Walker Forbes, at 13 Worthing Road Portsmouth. His parents were living in a 7 roomed house at 62 High Street, Alton, Hampshire. Two children had been born in the marriage but only Tom had survived.

Tom entered Epsom College, joining the Lower School on 26 April 1912. He started in the Upper III form of Holman House. At the time his father was working for the Capital and Counties Bank in Alton, Hampshire. After his first term he came fifth out of 24 boys in his form. In September he progressed to the Upper School, Propert House of which he later became Senior Prefect. He skipped the Modern Middle II form and went straight into Modern Middle I. This might have been too challenging because he only managed eighteen place out of 22 boys although he had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster. He repeated the year and came seventh out of 25 boys. The following year he spent in the Modern Fifth form where he came thirteenth out of 24 boys. Again he repeated the year and came top of fifteen boys and passed the London Matriculation exam in the Second Division having reached the standard in English, Maths, Latin, French and Chemistry.

In 1917 he came sixth out of 11 boys in the Modern Sixth form. He won the Divinity prize, and he passed the first examination towards his medical degree. When he left in July 1917, he was awarded the Jenks Memorial Scholarship and won a games scholarship to St Bartholomew’s Hospital to study medicine. He was a keen member of the College’s OTC and had been passed as “Efficient” in 1914, 1915 and 1916. He had also attended two annual camps, in 1914 and in 1916. He was a good marksman at musketry and won a special Bisley prize. He was also very fair at signalling. During his last year at the school he was a keen Sergeant Major in the School OTC.

Tom initially attested for short service on 19 May 1916 at the Epsom Recruiting Office. At the time his home address was Bank House, Alton, Hampshire. He was 17 years 5 months old and a still a student at Epsom College where he was serving in the OTC. He was recommended for an Officer Cadet unit on attaining the age of 18½ on 7 June 1917. The headmaster of Epsom, Walter Barton, wrote to the War Office seeking an extension to the date. Tom was a medical student and preparing for his first medical exams and the Head asked that he might be allowed until 21 July 1917 to complete his exams before joining up. His housemaster, JM Neale, certified his good moral character and the school recommended that he would make a good officer in either the artillery, which was Tom’s preference, or in the infantry. This was approved and he joined at Winchester on 24 July 1917.

At the time of his Army Medical at Winchester he was 5ft 7½ins tall, weighed 123 lbs. He had a 34½in chest when fully expanded (2¼ins expansion), good physical development, and 6/6 vision in both eyes. He had three vaccination marks from infancy. He joined the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery, Regimental Number 2486118 He joined 3 RFA Cadet School and was posted to Weendon on 27 July 1917. He was discharged to a commission on 20 December 1917. Although he had not gained Certificate A or B in the OTC, he met the educational standard required of a commissioned officer by having passed his School Certificate. His promotion to 2nd Lieutenant was in the London Gazette 1 Jan 1918.

Tom was serving at home on the Base List until 16 Feb 1918 when he arrived in France. He was posted to 33 Divisional Artillery on 19 February and then joined C/156 in the field directly from the base on 21 February. From there he was posted to A Battery (a four gun battery) on 8 April 1918. 33 Divisional Artillery was in the Ypres salient holding the line against the German Spring Offensive.

He died almost immediately, on 16 April 1918 at 64 Casualty Clearing Station, Mendinghem, near Ypres of wounds received in action. The date of the action was not stated on the casualty report.

He was buried in Mendinghem Military Cemetery grave IX F 32, about 17km north west of Ypres, Belgium.

His major wrote “Your son was on duty as forward observing officer at the time the enemy came over and endeavoured to send information to all the men we could see and rallied them and undoubtedly his small party checked the enemy. Everyone is greatly grieved at his death. He was a most charming boy”. According to his obituary in the Epsomian he had many charming qualities and was held in high esteem.

He did not leave a will, and two packages of belongings were returned to his father at Well Cottage, Beech, Alton. These included a valise, field glasses, a revolver, compass, camera, FS pocket book, a whistle, a flask, 2 pocket knives, 2 protractors, 1 cheque book, 1 wrist watch and strap (glass cracked), the back cover of watch case, 2 studs, 2 collar badges, 10 buttons, 1 ID disc, 1 card case, and visiting cards, 1 birth certificate, AFB2079, and 1 purse.

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father at 3 Elphinstone Mansions, 2 Elphinstone Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire.

The original wooden cross that marked his grave now hangs in Epsom College’s chapel.

Sources:
Baptismal register
Jeffery, Tom Forbes, s. of T. G. Jeffery, bank officer, of Alton, Hants, b. 1898, L.S. and P., prefect, l. 1917, T/2nd Lt. R.H.A., d. of wounds 1918

Tom Jeffery in 1917, while in his last days at school.

Tom Jeffery's Matriculation Certificate
The Headmaster's letter, asking for deferment.

Tom's original grave marker, in Epsom College Chapel

Jeffree, Frank

Birth Year: 1863
Entered Epsom College: 1876
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM? □
Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Jenkins, Capt. Norman Leslie

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Capt. I.A.
Rank: HMM? □
Researcher:
Jenkins, Capt. Norman Leslie, LA. (retd.), s. of dr. John Jenkins of British Honduras and of Coquimbo, Chile, b. 1898, L.S. and C., prefect, h. XI, l. 1915

Jarram, [Martyn] Ralph Knight
Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/Lt. Gurkha Rifles, att. M.G.C. 1914-18
House: XI
Rank: HMM?
Decorations: M.C.
Researcher:

Jervis, Arthur
Birth Year: 1863
Entered Epsom College: 1875
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: P
Rank: HMM?
Decorations:
Researcher:

John, Hugh Graham
Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Yorks and Lancs Regt att. North Fus. Wounded and mi
Rank: 2Lt
Unit: 3 Bn, Yorks & Lancs
Died: 16/06/15, aged 19
Buried: Ypres Menin Gate Mem, Belgium
Reference: Panel 8 & 12
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Hugh was born at Hendre Terrace, Llangennech on 14 July 1896, (GRO Ref: Sept 1896 Llanelly 11a 1044) the only son and second child of Dr Hugh and his wife Margaret nee Jones.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Bronygarth, Llangennech, Carmarthen. Hugh’s father was 40 years old and a doctor, his mother was 37. His sister Joan Margaret was 7 and Hugh was 4. Margaret John 65 and Jane Catherine John aged 35 were visiting the family, along with a medical locum and they employed two servants.

Hugh’s father enrolled him to start in Epsom College’s Lower School, Holman House, on 3 May 1909 from where he progressed to Propert House in the Upper School. From the start he showed his ability at drawing and won the Lower school drawing prize in 1910 and the main drawing prize the following year. He usually finished in the top 5% of his form, except in 1912 when he came 11th out of 22 boys in the Upper IVth form. This was probably because he went from the Lower IVth where he came second straight to the Upper IVth by-passing the Middle IVth year. In his last two years at the school he finished in fourth place in his year on the Classical side of the school. He passed his School Certificate and gained a first class pass in his London Matriculation in June 1914.

In the 1911 census Hugh was recorded at Epsom College. His parents were still living in the 10 roomed Bron-y-garth with one servant to look after them. The census return confirmed that they had been married 20 years and had had two children both of
whom were still living. Joan was at boarding school in Great Malvern and Hugh left Epsom in July 1914 and went up to Trinity College, Cambridge on 1 Oct 1914 as a “pensioner” i.e. a fee-paying student without emolument or income from a university trust fund. His tutor was Ernest Harrison.

On the outbreak of war he applied for an appointment in the Army’s Special Reserve and particularly wanted to serve in the 3 Bn Yorks and Lancs Regiment. He had a medical on 5 Dec 1914 at the age of 18. He was taller than average at that time at 72½ins, had a 34in chest which expanded to 38, weighed 154lbs, had good hearing but his vision was only 6/24 in both eyes. This could be improved to 6/6 with spectacles but was initially an obstacle to him joining up. He had served in the OTC at school and at University and was able to ride. He received his commission as 2nd lieutenant in 3 Bn Yorks and Lancs on 15 December 1914.

Hugh embarked for the Western Front n 25 May 1915 and was posted to 1 Northumberland Fusiliers which were part of 9 Bde, 3 Div.

He joined his battalion in the field on 30 May. He was reported missing “in France or Belgium” on 16 June 1915 during the Battle of Bellewaarde. This was fought over an area 0.5 miles square on which over 1000 men died within 12 hours on 16 June. On 15 June the British attacked the Germans at dawn to straighten an intended line in the region of Festubert.

As so often was the case, in the confusion of battle, there were slightly different accounts of what happened to him. It seems that Hugh had volunteered to lead a section to the attack and was very soon wounded in the arm. He persisted in leading his men and reached a position near Railway Wood which was considered to be too advanced to be retained and they received orders to fall back. Just at this time Hugh was wounded in the head and failed to retire with the rest. It was believed that he and two others were captured by the Germans. His family received news that he had been wounded and was missing.

Information from his CO and others initially indicated that he might have been taken prisoner by the Germans, when the German trench they had captured had to be evacuated and that he had not been badly wounded.

This account was corroborated because his mother’s last letter to him before he went into action had been returned to her from Germany and she felt it could only have been retrieved from his possessions. Their hope that he was a prisoner was supported by information from Captain Sloper’s mother that he had been taken prisoner with her son who was being held at Crefeld, just over the German border, north west of Dusseldorf. A summary of this information is held on Hugh’s file at the TNA and is reproduced below. Lance Cpl O’Neill 1088 said he had seen Hugh on 16 June wounded in the second line of trenches but not badly as he was still moving about. An hour later the trench was evacuated and Lieut John was probably a prisoner. However, Private Vincent 1467 in 2 Canadian Hospital at Hooge stated that “we captured 3 German trenches but had to retire from two of them, He (Lieut John) was near me. He was killed by a bullet at the second line of trenches in the first attack. We finally held only the first line.”

The War Office also sought information from the German Embassy but without a conclusive response. Ultimately, because of the lapse of time, it had to be concluded that Hugh had been killed and 16 June was accepted as his date of death.

He was awarded the 1915 Star, British War and Victory medals. He did not leave a will and is remembered on the Menin Gate Panels 36 and 55 and the Llangennech, Carmarthen memorial.

Hugh’s parents were still living at Bronygarth, (Bron-y-garth)Llangennech, Carmarthen.

Sources
Birth certificate on TNA file
CWGC
Census 1901,1911
Epsom Register printed and manuscript
Epsom College Yello Book
Free BMD
Medal Index Card
TNA 339/29630
Trinity College archives and Roll of Honour

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

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*Johnson, Philip, s. of William Johnson, solicitor, of New Inn, b. 1862, l. 1878, St. Bart.'s Hosp. and Edin. U., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.F.P.S. (Glas.), T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; d. 1951*

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

Johnston, John Edward Lionel

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. Lost at sea by enemy action, 1917

Johnston, John Edward Lionel M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), D.T.M. & H.

John was born on 1 June 1884 (GRO Ref Sept 1884 Edmonton 3a 244) the son of John Charles Johnston of Hornsey and Emma is wife. His father was an engineer and had been in the Public Works Dept Madras India.

John and his brother Charles Herbert Farley Johnston, who was three years older, were enrolled by their guardian WA Morley of Oakdene, Epsom as Day Boarders at Epsom College, starting 21 Jan 1897.

John was an outstanding student throughout his time at Epsom. In his first year he finished top of the Lower Fourth form (26 boys) and took the form prize. He repeated this the next year and took the form prize and the Junior Essay Prize. By 1899 he was in Wilson House and may have been a full boarder. He came second out of 20 boys in the Lower Fifth form and won the junior Geography prize. He passed his Lower School Certificate with first class passes in two subjects. In 1900 he came seventh out of 12 boys in the Matriculation Form and achieved a First division pass in the Matriculation Exam.

In 1901 John was living at 29 Crouch Hill Rd, Crouch End, Hornsey. His mother, Emma, aged 52 had been born in Jamaica. She was married and the head of the household. John had two siblings: Alice K aged 22 who was an art student and Charles H 19 who like John was a medical student. Both Alice and Charles had been born in India.

John had won an Open Entrance Scholarship to St Mary's Hospital, and London University. In 1904 he passed a special exam in organic chemistry and in 1905 passed exams qualifying him for MRCS and LRCP. He also gained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and a Masters degree from Cambridge.

After qualifying as a doctor in 1909, John studied at the School of Tropical Medicine where he carried out important work with Yellow Fever, Sleeping Sickness, and Malaria infection. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine. In about 1912 he went out to Nigeria where he served as a Medical Officer (MO) with the West Africa Medical Service in Lagos, and was seconded as a special investigator in the Yellow Fever Commission at Bassa in Northern Nigeria.

He married by banns Gertrude Mabel Tyers on 24 Nov 1913 at Christ Church Hampstead, when he gave his address as 24 Marlborough Hill Hampstead, although he was still working as the MO in West Africa. His wife was the eldest daughter of JE Tyers of Umaria, India.

On the outbreak of war he was attached as MO to the West African military forces and accompanied them through the Cameroons campaign. He died at sea when the ship on which he was travelling went down. He and had his wife had returned to England on leave on the ship Abinsi which arrived in Liverpool on 7 May 1917. They travelled down to John’s parents at Percy Place, Bath. At the end of October John was returning to Lagos from Liverpool. On 9 or 10 Nov 1917 the ship was seen in grave difficulties in heavy weather but there is also a belief that she had been torpedoed. She sank with no survivors. Four bodies were washed ashore including Dr Johnston’s cabin companion.

Probate of his estate was granted to his widow of valued at £587 17s 3d. 74 Marlborough Hill, Hampstead on 15 March 1918.

His parents were living at 11 Percy Place, Bath.

He is remembered on the Blundells School war memorial.

Sources
Bath Chronicle 19 Jan 1918
CWGC not found
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Yellow Bk
Free BMD
Newspaper 19 Jan 1918
Parish registers- marriage

Jones, Arthur Bassett

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1884
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Jones, Arthur Grey

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1886
Regiment: T/Capt. The Rifle Bde. 1914-18

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Jones, Arthur Maddock

Birth Year: 1902
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C. Formerly Roy. Welch Fus. (T.A.)

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Jones, Eric Silva

Birth Year: 1879
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Regiment: R.N.R. 1914-18

Jones, Herbert Martin Royds

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: T/Lt. A/Capt. City of London Rifles 1915-19

Jones, Thomas Caldwell Litler

Birth Year: 1873
Entered Epsom College: 1888
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C.

Jones, William Ernest

Birth Year: 1867
Entered Epsom College: 1882
Regiment: Lt.-Col R.A.M.C. 1914-1918

William Ernest Jones, C.M.G., s. of Alfred Jones, surgeon, of Dudley, b. 1867, l. 1884, Middx Hosp. and Melb. U., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lt.-Col. Aust. A.M.C. 1914-18, J.P. Victoria; 15A Fairlie Court, South Turra, Melbourne

For Jones, the psychiatrist was 'the apostle of common sense,' whose proper concerns ranged from the imbecile and psychopath to the delinquent and degenerate.”

then received his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital and Melbourne University. He was early attracted to the study of lunacy and, in 1903, was appointed Medical Superintendent of the new Brecon and Radnor County Asylum, at Talgarth, Wales. In 1905, Ernest Jones emigrated to Australia where he took up the appointment of Inspector-General of the Insane, in Victoria. Although the initial appointment was for five years, he held office until 1937. Soon after his arrival in Melbourne he visited the six Victoria asylums. In his report to the Australian Government he criticised serious overcrowding, inadequate staffing and outmoded attitudes. He then recommended building improvements totalling £250,000, an enormous sum by today’s values. His early achievements included construction of a modern asylum at Mont Park, McLeod, Victoria in 1912, and amendment of the Lunacy Act to allow the admission of patients at their own request.

After wartime service as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Australian Army Medical Corps, he chaired a 1921 commission of inquiry into lunacy in Western Australia. In 1929 he conducted a Federal Government Inquiry into the mentally deficient, which concluded that a little less than 3 per cent of the Australian population fell into this category. Ernest Jones saw this as a grave threat to national efficiency and advocated eugenic ideals as a remedy, partly through the Council of Mental Hygiene which he helped to establish. At his instigation, the name of the Lunacy Department was changed to the Department of Mental Hygiene, and his own title to Director of Mental Hygiene. Although he rejected as impractical compulsory sterilisation and doubted whether society would act to prevent the mentally defective from marrying, he proposed eugenic research and urged the ‘inculcation of good hygiene in our matings.’ In 1933, he advised the Tasmanian Government on the rebuilding of the New Norfolk Asylum and, following his retirement, was appointed Inspector-General of the Insane in Western Australia. In 1947, aged 80, he chaired a government inquiry into his old department. He was appointed C.M.G. in 1935. In the Dictionary of Australian Biography is written: “Of medium height and slight build, bespectacled and well-groomed, he was at home at the Melbourne Club and Sandringham golf links. Jones died, sane but cantankerous about the moral deterioration of the world, on 1 May, 1957.”

Jones-Lloyd, Owen John Frederick

**Birth Year:** 1898  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1911  
**Regiment:** R.F.C. and R.A.F. 1917-18  
**Decorations:**

---

Jordan-Lloyd, John

**Birth Year:** 1893  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1908  
**Regiment:** T/Maj. R. Tank Corps 1914-18  
**Decorations:**

---

Joscelyne, Laurence Arthur

**Birth Year:** 1897  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1910  
**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. Som L.I. Killed in action 1917  
**Decorations:** M.C.
Joscelyne Lawrence Arthur, 2nd Lt., 7 (Service) Bn (Prince Albert’s) Somerset Light Infantry
Killed 1 October 1917

Lawrence was born at 6 Grooms Hill, Greenwich on 16 Dec 1897 (GRO Ref: Mar 1898 Greenwich 1d 1124) the son of Arthur Edwin Joscelyne (1867-1950) and his wife Emily Vivian nee Gurney (1863-1948) They had married in 1895. Lawrence’s father was a surgeon who had been born in Stoke Lyne, Oxfordshire. Lawrence was baptised at St Alphage, Greenwich 24 Jan 1898. In 1901 the family was still living at 6 Grooms Hill, Greenwich. Lawrence had two sisters Muriel Vivien 1896-1955, who would become a medical practitioner and died unmarried and the newly born Mary Ewing Joscelyne. A midwife nurse and 2 servants were also in residence.

Lawrence entered the Lower Third form of Epsom College’s Lower School, Fayrer House, on 3 May 1910. His father registered him and was living at Salisbury House, Billetfield, Taunton at the time. Lawrence progressed to Propert House in the Upper School and came top of his year in 1911 winning the Holiday Prize. This was given by the Headmaster for a piece of work or collection made during the summer holiday. In 1912 he was in the Upper Fourth form and only managed to come 15th out of 22 boys. For some reason he was absent for the latter part of the year. The next year he spent in Shell form and came 14th out of 25 boys. In 1914 he rose to 9th position out of 23 boys suggesting that he was both able and hard-working, determined to do well. He left from the Modern VI in July 1915 to take up an Exhibition to Trinity College, Oxford where he stayed for a year and passed his first medical examination.

He applied for a temporary commission on 10 Jan 1916. On his application form he stated that he had previously applied for a commission in the Somerset Royal Horse Artillery, a territorial unit. He expressed a desire, in order of preference, to join the artillery, Royal Engineers, Infantry, or Army Service Corps, with a particular wish to join the Royal Garrison Artillery. The section has been crossed through and “Somerset Light Infantry” written alongside.

At this time the officer recruitment process was taking months, and like many young men Lawrence believed the war would be a short one and was impatient to take part before it was over. He had already spent two years in the OTC at Epsom College and one term in Oxford University’s Corps. He attested as Private 32141 on 11 Feb 1916. His medical assessment recorded that he was 5ft 10 inches tall, weighed 132lbs, had a 31 inch chest that expanded to 35 inches and had a fair physical development. He had two vaccination marks and 6/6 vision in both eyes. He was considered fit for general service and joined the Army Reserve the following day.

He was accepted eventually for No 2 Officer Cadet Bn to join at Cambridge 17 July 1916 and obtained a commission as 2nd Lieutenant 22 Nov 1916 in the Somerset Light Infantry.

He distinguished himself at the battle of Langemarck on 16 August 1917 and was awarded the Military Cross on 30 September 1917. He was decorated in the front line by his Colonel two days before he was killed

He was entertaining his uncle, Major Frederick Percy Joscelyne RAMC, for a night in a house behind the front lines at Poperinge when, with his new decoration on his breast and his first permit to go home on leave in his pocket, he was killed by a bomb dropped by an aeroplane. He was hit by a piece of shrapnel and bled to death in his Uncle’s arms. At the time of his death, after only nine months in France and while still under twenty years of age, he had been in command of a company for some weeks, as temporary acting Captain, though his promotion had not been gazetted. He was considered to be a very capable officer, much beloved by his men. His colonel wrote “He is a great loss to the battalion, being one of our best subalterns. His courage and cheerfulness were a splendid example to all ranks.”

He is buried in Lijssenthoek Military cemetery grave XX C 18. At this time his parents were still living in Salisbury House, Taunton.

He did not leave a will and the following possessions were returned to his family: 1 identity disc, a tobacco pouch, a cigarette case (battered), a pipe (broken), pipe lighter (incomplete), a tortoiseshell cigarette case (damaged), pocket mirror (broken), comb in case (broken), compass, lanyard, cheque book, clasp knife, novel, 2 German buttons, 2 regimental badges, 1 leather purse, 1 pocket calendar, 1 small cork, 1 pencil with protector, 3 safety pins, 4 rifle bullets, correspondence, 1 tie clip and a New Testament.

In addition to the Military Cross, he was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father. Lawrence and a fellow soldier were remembered in a service on Sunday 28 October at St Mary’s Taunton.

Sources
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsom College register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Free BMD
Family info
Medal Index cards
Western Times 16 Oct 1917 (and Taunton Courier 24 Oct 1917)
TNA file WO 339/56812 long no. 129142
Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope

**Joscelyne, Laurence Arthur, M.C., s. of dr. A. E. Joscelyne of Taunton, b. 1897, L.S. and F., l. 1915, exhr. of Trin. Coll., Oxon, T/2nd Lt. Som. L.I., killed in action 1917**

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope, R.E., brother of C. G. K. (1878), b. 1878, P., prefect, XV, Martin and Propert Prs., l. 1896, R.M.A., d. 1934

Kearney, Claude Stewart James

**Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope, R.E., brother of C. G. K. (1878), b. 1878, P., prefect, XV, Martin and Propert Prs., l. 1896, R.M.A., d. 1934**

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Keele, George William

**Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope, R.E., brother of C. G. K. (1878), b. 1878, P., prefect, XV, Martin and Propert Prs., l. 1896, R.M.A., d. 1934**

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Keen, Ernest Beresford

**Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope, R.E., brother of C. G. K. (1878), b. 1878, P., prefect, XV, Martin and Propert Prs., l. 1896, R.M.A., d. 1934**

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Keen, Ernest Beresford, s. of dr. William Keen of Chelsea, b. 1882, l. 1900, Char. Cross Hosp., L.M.S.S.A., Capt. R.A.M.C. (T.F.), d. 1925

Kelsey, Philip George

**Kealy, Lt.-Col. Percival Hope, R.E., brother of C. G. K. (1878), b. 1878, P., prefect, XV, Martin and Propert Prs., l. 1896, R.M.A., d. 1934**

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Researcher:
Kelsey, Philip George, s. of G. S. Kelsey, licensed victualler, of Kenilworth, b. 1893, L.S. and F., XV, l. 1911, occupation unknown, T/Lt. R.F.C. 1916

Kendall, Guy Melville

Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1917-18


Kennish, Allen Charles Edward Forbes

Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Lt. R.F.C. 1914-18

Kennish, Allen Charles Edward Forbes, s. of dr. T. L. Kennish of Winslow, b. 1895, L.S. and C., prefect, XV (capt.), h. XI, l. 1914, rubber planter in Sumatra, T/Lt. R.F.C. 1914-18

Kenny, Ernest Hamilton

Entered Epsom College: 1881
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Kenny, Hilary Alexander Harold Symonds

Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: Sub-Lieut. R.N.V.R. Killed in action 1918

Kenny, Henry A H S

Died: 26/03/18 aged 23
Unit: Anson Bn, RNVR
Buried: Arras Memorial, France
Reference: Bay 1

Liz Manterfield

KENNY Hilary Alexander Harold Symonds Temporary Sub Lt., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Anson Bn
Died: 26 Mar 1918

Hilary was born 11 January 1895 (GRO Ref: Mar 1895 Bromley 2a 446) the son of Dr Alexander Symonds Kenny FRCS KCL,
Onelunga NZ and his wife Mary Grace Symonds nee Nicholas of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. He was also a grandson of the late Hon Lt Col WH Kenny 13 Blackwatch.

Hilary had two younger siblings Elfreda born in 1896 and Magdeline born in 1897. Hilary’s father had been born in New Zealand and had come to England to study medicine. On 18 June 1898 Hilary’s mother and the three children boarded their cabin on the ship Loch Garry at Glasgow to join their father in Auckland, New Zealand.

His father had practised medicine in New Zealand and Guildford Street, London for about nineteen years but died in 1901. Hilary was awarded a Foundation Scholarship to Epsom College in 1904. This meant that he was considered to deserve a funded place at the school. At the time of his application the family was living at the Cyclists’ Rest, Whyteleafe, Surrey. The family had very limited means, mainly derived from what Hilary’s mother could achieve and with assistance from relatives. The family moved to Church Hill Avenue, Orpington and then to 11 Avenue Terrace, Westcliff on Sea, Essex.

Hilary entered the Lower School on 15 Sept 1904 and progressed to Propert House in the Upper School where he became a sub-Prefect and then a Prefect. He was recorded there in the 1911 census. He was a good athlete and won the junior 100yds in the College’s athletics event on 2 April 1910. He also played in the rugby first XV 1911/1912 and 2nd cricket XI. However he found the academic side of school life a challenge. In 1907 and 1909 he came bottom of his form and re-took the year. He achieved a lower School Certificate in 1910 and managed a 2nd division matriculation in 1912, although once again he was almost bottom of his year.

On leaving school in 1912 he obtained a post as a clerk in the Produce Brokers Company Ltd.

On 4 December 1914 he joined Royal Naval Division (RND) on its formation as acting Leading Seaman Z/1026 at the age of 19. He was 5ft 9½ins tall, and had a 35 inch chest expanding to 37ins. He had a medium complexion, with brown hair, and grey eyes. He was Church of England. He had previous military experience through being on the nominal roll of the Public Schools Battalion and could swim. He was in Hawke Battalion D company from 9 March 1915 to 9 April 1916 when he moved to Anti-Aircraft Guns crew, at Mudros on the Greek island of Lemnos. He had been assessed as of very good character and satisfactory ability.

At about 18.35 on 11 September 1915 at Cape Helles Hilary was cleaning his rifle and shot and killed Able Seaman Z/1168 David James Philips who was asleep nearby. Hilary blamed the incident on a mechanical malfunction of his rifle.


After a period of special leave he joined No 17 Officer Cadet Bn at Kinnel Park, Ryhill on 5 May 1917. He obtained a commission on 29 August 1917 and became a temporary Sub-Lieutenant RNVR for service in the 63rd (RN) Div. He was instructed to report to Blandford on 20 October 1917 and posted to 3 Reserve Bn. He was in the draft for Anson Bn to go to France with the BEF on 8 Dec 1917, and arrived in Boulogne from Folkstone on 9 December. He then joined the base depot at Calais on 12 December and finally joined his unit on 15 December 1917. On 8 Feb 1918 he was admitted to 150 Field Ambulance suffering from debility but soon returned to Anson Bn. He was killed whilst leading his men against overwhelming numbers on Tues 26 Mar at Martinpuich.

His CO wrote “He was an extremely gallant officer. His courage and fearlessness in the face of danger won the love and admiration of all with whom he came in contact.”

He is remembered on the Arras Memorial Bay 18

He took an active interest in the Sunday School and Church of England work at St Albans Westcliff, where he was also an altar server. He kept in touch with all his classes all thorough the war and hoped to come back with ripened experience to the work which he had so much at heart and there are three separate memorials to him in St Albans church Westcliff.

Administration of his effects, valued at £153 12 s was granted to his mother of 7 Inverness Avenue, Westcliff on Sea, Essex on 6 Nov 1919. He was awarded the 1915 star, and the British War and Victory medals.

Sources
Chelmsford Chronicle 2 Jan 1920
CWGC
Epsom Register printed and m/s
Epsom Yellow Book
St Alban the Martyr Westcliff website.
Times
TNA ADM 339/3/970 and 337/125/352

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**Kershaw, Group Capt. Ronald Hargrave**

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<th>House:</th>
<th>HMM?</th>
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**Regiment:** Sqd. Ldr. R.N.A.S. 1914-18

**Rank**

**Decoration:**

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Kenny, Hilary Alexander Harold Symonds, s. of dr. A. S. Kenny of Guildford Street, W.C., b. 1895, L.S. and C., prefect, XV, l. 1912, Sub-Lt. R.N.V.R., killed in action 1918

Kidd, Harold Andrew
Birth Year: 1878
Entered Epsom College: 1878
House: HMM? ☐
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C. 1915-18
Rank
Decorations: C.B.E.

Kilroy, Willie Dickson
Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1888
House: HMM? ☐
Rank
Decorations:

King, Francis Herbert
Birth Year: 1912
Entered Epsom College: 1912
House: HMM? ☐
Regiment: F.O. R.N.A.S. 1915-18
Rank
Decorations:

King, Maurice Richard
Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1910
House: HMM? ☐
Regiment: T/Lt. M.G.C. 1914-18
Rank
Decorations:

Knapp, Valentine Powell
Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1908
House: P
HMM? ☐
Decorations:
Valentine was born on 29 January 1894, (GRO ref Mar 1894 Kingston 2a 352) the eldest son of Valentine Knapp and his first wife, Annie nee Powell. His father was a journalist and the editor of the Surrey Comet newspaper. His parents had married in All Saints church, Kingston on 3 May 1893.

In 1901 Valentine was living at 2 Albury Park, Kingston upon Thames. His father was 40 and at the Surrey Comet. His mother Annie was 38. He had two younger brothers Lionel aged 4 and Brian aged 18. The family employed 3 servants. His mother died in 1905.

In 1911 Valentine and his family were living in a 13 room house, Field Head, in Coombe Warren, Kingston on Thames. Valentine’s father was 50 and the editor and company director of Knapp Drewett who owned the Surrey Comet. 17 year old Valentine was described as an accountancy student and had two brothers at home Brian Russell aged 11 and Hubert Saville aged 7. Their father had married Florence Ellen Blatchford 3 years earlier, and she and her mother were also in the house. They employed a cook and a housemaid.

Educated initially at Kingston Grammar and at Mr Edwin Dockers’ at Worthing, Valentine entered Epsom College Lower School in 1908 and progressed to the Senior School in Propert House. Valentine was an unremarkable student, coming 16th out of 23 students in the Modern Middle School in 1909 and 18th out of 22 in 1910.

On leaving in 1910 he went to Bristol to study business and accountancy and no doubt his father had hopes that he would follow in his footsteps as a proprietor of the Surrey Comet.

Valentine was a very keen sportsman. He had played in Epsom College’s hockey team and went on to make his mark in the Kingston Hill Hockey Club 1st side. He was also a golfer of great prowess and a member of the Coombe Wood Club in Kingston.

He initially joined the Service battalion (9th) of the Gloucester Regiment, known as Bristol’s Own, as a private in September 1914 but then obtained a temporary commission in January 1915 as 2nd Lieutenant in 7th Bn East Surrey. When he enlisted the family was living at at Hertcombe, Coombe, Kingston Hill.

He proceeded on 7 October 1915 to join his battalion in France. They were engaged in heavy fighting in the trenches throughout the autumn, into spring 1916 and in the summer advance. Despite various narrow escapes, Valentine survived unscathed.

On two occasions he undertook special duties behind the lines as the battalion’s Bombing Officer, in the absence on leave of the usual officer. It was whilst he was supervising bombing instruction that a bomb exploded prematurely in the hands of Private Dursley. Valentine was explaining how to throw the bomb overarm and told Dursley to carry on. Dursley pulled out the pin and had got the bomb up over his head when it exploded. Valentine was standing behind him and a piece of the bomb went straight through his heart. Both men died instantly. As far as could be ascertained the accident was due to a faulty fuse.

His father received news of his son’s death through letters from the Colonel and chaplain of the Battalion. The colonel in his letter paid tribute to Valentine: “A very gallant fellow and an excellent officer. His loss both as a friend and an officer will be much felt in the Battalion.” The chaplain described him as the life and soul of the regiment and a universal favourite with officers and men.

He was buried in the village of Vauclelles les Authie, France on 19 July 1916. The whole battalion attended the funeral as well as the Brigadier. Private Dursley was buried alongside him. These graves have now been moved to Louvencourt, one of the first three cemeteries the War Graves Commission built after the war, and the two men still lie together in Plot 1, row E, graves 6 and 7.

Probate was granted on 3 October 1916 to his father who described himself as a journalist Valentine’s effects were valued at £1435 6s 10d.

Valentine’s father arranged a memorial service to celebrate the life of his son, and wrote a poem to be read in the service. This and a picture of the graves was included in a printed Order of Service which is now in Kingston Heritage Centre’s collection.

2 Aug 2013
Sources
CWGC
Kingston upon Thames roll of honour collection
Memorial Service Program photograph

Details of Knapp's original grave from the Memorial Order of Service

Kingston Heritage Centre
The memorial poem, written by Mr. Knapp.

Laing, Arthur Douglas
Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: R.G.A. 1916-18
Rank: L.C.
Decorations: M.C.
Researcher: Lander, Anthony John Meads

Land, Lander, Arthur John Meads
Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Capt. Sherwood Foresters 1914-18
Rank: HMM?
Researcher:

Languth, Edward Heinrich
Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Lt. Lond. Regt. 1914-18

Lansdown, Robert Guthrie Poole
Birth Year: 1863
Entered Epsom College: 1880
Regiment: Lt.-Col. (T.F.) R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Lapage, Charles Paget
Birth Year: 1879
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C., desp

CHARLES PAGET LAPAGE (1879-1947), Ch.B., M.D. (Manchester), F.R.C.P. (Eng.). - President of the British Paediatric Association.

“Lapage was a unique character, and one will always remember his arrival at hospital in an airmen’s helmet as a precaution against draught in his car and his remarkable upright quick walk down the corridor to his ward, hugging a sheaf of papers.”

forward a thesis on mentally retarded children, at that time grouped under the title ‘feeble-minded.’ Following the death of Dr Henry Ashby, Senior Physician at Manchester Children’s Hospital, Charles Lapage was appointed honorary physician at that hospital in 1908, and subsequently to St Mary’s Hospital, Manchester, where he took charge of the children’s wards. His interest in mental incapacity in children continued with the publication of his book Feeblemindedness in Children of School Age in 1911, with a second edition in 1920. This book was at the time the standard work on this emotive subject. He inaugurated and ran a clinic at the Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital for the diagnosis and treatment of children with mental and speech defects by non-medical teachers with special qualifications, and this was one of the first clinics of its kind in this country. Before the First World War, Charles Lapage was a Captain in the University Territorial Training Corps and he was soon appointed as its commanding officer. During the war he served with the 2nd Western General Hospital and, in 1918, went abroad as a major in the R.A.M.C. with the 57th General Hospital to France, where he was mentioned in despatches. After the War he established himself as one of Manchester’s foremost paediatricians. At the University of Manchester he was appointed Lecturer on Diseases of Children in 1908, and Reader in Diseases of Children from 1931-1947. He was President of the Manchester Medical Society and of the Section of Diseases of Children of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was one of the original members of the British Paediatric Association and it was said that he had never missed a meeting. His membership culminated in his election as its President in 1929 and, in 1932, he was appointed Vice-President of the Section of Diseases of Children at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association. As a student, Charles Lapage was a prominent runner and rugby footballer. He listed the recreations of his middle life as walking in the mountains, golf, swimming and tennis. Indeed, he cultivated his taste for strenuous exercise to the end of his life and he was proud of his achievement of climbing every peak over 2,500 feet in England and Wales at the age of 65. In 1945, a paediatric prize was founded at the University of Manchester in Lapage’s memory.

Lathbury, Frank Herbert

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Maj. R.E. 1914-18

Lathbury, Lt.-Col. Ernest Browning

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.

Lattey, Walter Charles

Birth Year: 1864
Entered Epsom College: 1877
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Laurence, Gerald

Decorations:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Laurence, Stuart

Died 17/09/16 aged 24
Buried Bernafay, France
Reference: RM.G44

Laurence, Gerald, s. of F. G. Laurence, J.P., master grocer, of Maidstone, b. 1888, G., prefect, XV, XI, h. XI, l. 1906, Middx Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, brother of S. L. (1903); Forge Dene, Bethersden, Kent

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Stuart was born on 15 October 1891 the son of Frank Gerald Laurence and his wife Henrietta Gertrude neé Sankey. His parents had married in 1885 (GRO Ref: Dec 1885 Maidstone 2a 1170). His father was a JP, an Alderman and a master grocer in Maidstone, Kent.

The 1891 census, before Stuart was born, show the Laurencenes living at 221 Boxley Road, Maidstone. Frank and Gertrude had two sons: William aged 4 and Gerald aged 2. In the 1901 census the family was living at Milton House, Boxley Road, Maidstone. Stuart’s father was a 45 year old wholesale grocer, Henrietta Gertrude was 40. Stuart was 9 and his brother Merthyr was aged 3. The family employed 2 servants and a governess. Gerald was a pupil at Epsom College and William was boarding at Bedford County School at Kempston.

Stuart followed his brother Gerald to Epsom College joining on 17 September 1903. At the time his father registered him for the school, they were still living still at Milton House. He entered the Lower School Second Form in B House and progressed to Granville House in the Upper School until he left in 1906. Generally he was placed in the middle of his form. He had been a member of the school’s OTC for 18 months. On leaving school he worked as a bank clerk.

By 1911 the family had moved to a ten roomed house, “Kintore”, in Maidstone. French nuns had acquired Milton House in 1904 to use as a convent. Stuart was living at home with his parents and one servant but his siblings were not at home. His father described himself as Managing Director of a wholesale grocery company. The census return confirmed that his parents had four children all of whom were living.

He enlisted on 14 September 1914 at the age of 22yrs 11 months as Private 594 in 19th Service Bn Royal Fusiliers (the 2nd Public Schools Bn). After serving 330 days at home as a private he was discharged to a commission in 10 (Service) bn (Kent County) Royal West Kent Regiment on 10 Aug 1915. Lord Harris, Vice Lieutenant of Kent had formed the battalion at Maidstone on 3 May 1915.

His medical record shows that he was 6 ft tall, weighed 154lbs, had a 34 in chest expanding to 36 inches with a good physical development. He had a dark complexion, with brown eyes and black hair, He had no distinctive marks, other than 3 vaccination marks from infancy, no “physical peculiarities nor previous diseases”, 6/6 vision in both eyes, and was generally fit. He was unable to ride. His senior housemaster, JA Newsom, gave him a reference for having a good standard of education. He was Church of England.

He gave his parent’s address, Ivythorne, Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, Kent as his permanent address but was living temporarily at 18 Upper Court Road, Epsom.

10 Bn commenced their final training at Aldershot in January 1 and Stuart went to France 4 May 1916 with his battalion, which was part of 41 Div. The Division then concentrated between Hazebrouck and Baileul. 10 Bn was in action for the first time in the attack on Flers, the September continuation of the Somme offensive. 10 Bn was in reserve and was called up about mid-day on 15 September to consolidate and hold Switch Trench, north west of Flers. They came under German shell fire but held the position until the night of 17/18 September when the Division was withdrawn to Becordel and Dernancourt for rest and reorganisation. 10 Bn suffered fewer losses than the 11th, but still lost 7 officers and 94 other ranks between 11-18 September including Stuart on 17 September. The action is famous for the first use of tanks. A correspondent: described the tanks deployment with the immortal and hopeful words of “A tank is walking up the high street of Flers.”
His parents received a letter dated 8 Nov 1916 stating that he was buried in north west corner of Bernafay Wood. He is now in the Bernafrey Wood British Cemetery, on the Somme, France, and lies in plot M 44. The cemetery, 10 km east of Albert, and close to Montauban village, was begun by a dressing station in August 1916 and used as a front line cemetery until the following spring. It increased in size after the war when additional graves were brought in from Bernafay Wood North Cemetery.

He had not left a will so his father took out letters of administration. His death had to be re-gazetted owing to a spelling error in the name.

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his parents at Hope Cottage, Tunbridge Road, Maidstone.

His belongings included: a Revolver in holster, 1 waterproof washing bag, 1 sponge bag, 1 safety razor, 1 pair of field glasses, 1 brush and comb, 1 collar, 1 handkerchief, 1 tin opener, 1 soap box, 1 knife, 1 shaving brush, 1 cigarette case, 1 whistle, 1 pair of scissors, 1 pipe, 1 corkscrew, ½d 1 fountain pen, 1 pocket book, 1 officers’ advance book, and 13 francs, paid to base cashier.

Sources:
CWGC
Epsom Register printed and m/s
Epsom Yellow Book
Jonathon Saunders on RWKR details
Medal Index card
TNAWO 339/37715

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Milton House, Maidstone later became the Convent of the Sacred Heart

**Lavis, Alexander Henry Johnston**

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**Decorations:**

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**Researcher:**


**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

**Lavis, Marcus Antonius [Johnston]**

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<td>1892</td>
<td>Cpl. 99th Alpine Infantry (French)</td>
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**Researcher:**


**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**
Dr. Marcus Antonius Johnston de Lavis-Trafford C.V.O., O.B.E.
B.Litt., B.Ph., L.ès Sc., M.D.
1880 -1960

Marcus Antonius J. de Lavis-Trafford (ML) was the eldest son of Dr Herbert James Johnston-Lavis M.D. (1856-1914) and his wife Antonia Francoise Bourdari-et de St Aupre (died 1917). Those studying the family records have to overcome the problems of not only the length of the family names but the tendency to change the names at frequent intervals. For simplicity here Lavis will be used as in the Epsom College Register1 but see more below.

Dr Herbert Lavis. was a distinguished clinician. Born in England, a descendent of a Huguenot family which settled in Devonshire, he was educated in England and Marseille before qualifying in medicine at University College and later St Mary’s Hospital London. He was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society when only 19 and wrote a number of papers on geological subjects. After taking further qualifications in Paris he settled in Naples taking an M.D. there in 1880. During the summer season he practised in Harrogate and then in 1895, after taking a second M.D. at Lyons moved to Beaulieu on the Riviera during the winter months numbering Lord Salisbury and W.E. Gladstone among his patients. Sadly he died as the result of a motor accident, possibly one of the earliest recorded, at Bourg, France in 1914. He and his wife had 3 sons of which ML was the eldest3. All three boys went to Epsom and all served in the Great War.

Walter Edward, born 1882 in Naples, went to Epsom in 1896, leaving in 1899. In January 1905 he married, at the Registry Office in Fulham, a French lady, Blanche Marguerite Delanney and on 12 February 1906 their son, Henri Johnston Lavis was born in Paris. At that time they were living at 189 Rue de Paris, Franconville, Seine et Oise, the address being given on Walter’s enlistment papers as the address of his next of kin. In October 1915 he signed on as a private soldier in London for service with the Army Service Corps in the mechanical transport section and on his attestation papers stated that he had served with the ‘London Rough Riders’ for 2 years. This was a territorial force created in 1908 and more formally known as the 22nd Mounted Division of the City of London Yeomanry.3 He quickly rose through the ranks in the ASC and by 22 June 1917, as a CQMS, was sent for a commission having served in France from 27 March 1916. Whether he returned to France after receiving his commission is not clear but in 1919 he was promoted from 2/Lt. to Lieutenant (LG 31333 p5867 and then in the following year he completed his service and left the army (LG 32255 p2068) receiving the Victory Medal and BWM. He moved later to Morocco possibly following his father’s interest in geology.

Alexander Henry (AHL) (1888-1941), also born in Naples, went to Epsom in 1904 and after leaving the College in 1908 became an engineer. In January 1915 he joined up for war service with the 218 Field Coy. Royal Engineers being commissioned as a 2/Lt. (LG 29035 p284). He left for France on 23 November 20154 and moved up to lieutenant in December that year. In October 1916 he became A/Capt. whilst 2nd in command of the company having been mentioned in despatches (MID) by General Sir Douglas Haig for services in the field that June (LG 29623 p5929). He was promoted to T/Capt. in September 1917 (LG 30288 p9628). When he received his war medals, the 1915 Star, BWM, and VM with emblem to indicate his MID, he was living at Great Buckham, Meopham in Kent.4

After the Great War AHL resigned his commission on completion of war service, retiring with the rank of Captain in November 1920 (LG 32189 p342), returning to civilian life. However at the beginning of WW2 he re-joined the army, initially as a 2nd Lt. in the RASC, then being quickly moved up to his former rank of T/Capt. It appears that he served in the Home Command at this time but on 11 March 1941 his name appeared in the casualty lists recording him as ‘dangerously ill’.5 Two days later he died (GRO 4a 1911) and was buried in the Colchester Cemetery and Crematorium. As he died in service from illness as opposed to being killed in action his grave is marked by a gravestone of ‘non-world-war-grave’ pattern with a square cut in both ‘shoulders’ of the stone. The inscription is of the pattern common to all CWGC headstones.6
Marcus Antonius was born almost certainly in Naples just after his parents had moved there in 1880. He entered Epsom in 1892 age 12 to begin a distinguished career both at the College and afterwards. He started in the Lower School in Lower \( W \) form and was placed around the middle of the form at the end of his first year. In 1894 in the Upper \( W \) he came 2nd and won the history and divinity prizes. Next year in the Middle \( IV \) he was 6th of 23. No position was recorded in 1896 when he was in Middle 1 on the modern side, but he won the geography holiday prize and the geology prize that year. In 1897 he became a sub-prefect and in the following January he passed the London matriculation exam. He was now in the V1 form studying physical sciences and was a prefect, Captain of Rugger and a College fencing representative at Aldershoto. He left college in 1898 and went on to study medicine at London, Paris and Lyon Universities in due course becoming M.D.7

He served in the Italian theatre in WW1 but details of his service are inevitably difficult to trace. He had been working as senior consulting physician at the Queen Victoria Hospital Nice, a hospital founded by his father, and was honorary physician to the American Hospital in Paris. However it is known that he was the senior medical officer at No.9 Red Cross Hospital in Turin and his service there was recognised with the award of an O.B.E. in January 1921 (LG 32193 p372). In 1918 he was chief of British oral propaganda in Italy and chairman of the Instituto Italo-Britannico in Rome.7

In 1918 he married in London, Muriel Elizabeth Trafford-Rawson (1893-1976) the daughter of an army major. They had two children, John Henry (1920-1991) and Nerolje Louise (born 1923). After his death his widow lived with her unmarried daughter in Portman Close in London where she eventually died aged 83.

ML appears to have found his name a problem throughout his life. According to a notice in the London Gazette (8 January 1915 p323) he was originally known as Marcus Antonius Johnston-Lavis, the surname by which his father was known.2 In 1905 he had changed this by deed poll to Marc Antoine de Lavis de Foix. In 1915 he reassumed the name of Marcus Antonius Johnston-Lavis in conjunction with the name de Levis de Foix becoming Marcus Antonius Johnston-Lavis de Levis de Foix. Possibly finding this a bit of a problem when signing letters or cheques, in 1919 (LG 31 January p1579) he changed again to Marcus Antonius Johnston Lavis de Levis missing out the hyphen but leaving 'de Levis' at the end. However this was not to be the end of the matter as according to his obituary7, after his marriage, possibly at the suggestion of his wife, he assumed the name of Trafford in conjunction with part of his name and became Marcus Antonius Johnston de Lavis-Trafford and as far as is known that was his name when he died.

In December 1926 he had become an Officer of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem (LG 33236 p29) and in July 1927 was appointed Physician in Ordinary to HRH the Duke of Connaught (LG 33294 p4559). In 1931 he was become M.V.O. being elevated to Commander (C.V.O.) the following year (EG 14823 p15).

During a long life he lived in a number of countries. In 1905 he resided at Villa Lavis, Beaulieu, Alpes Maritime, France having moved there from Lesa, Lago Maggiore in Italy. At the time of his marriage he moved back to England for a while living at St Leonards Grange, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Hampshire, where his children were born. He was a pioneer of winter sports in the French Alps and in 1911 founded the Club des Sports d'Hiver de Nice et des Alpes Maritime of which he was the first president7. He received a number of civic honours from towns in the region and was an honorary corporal of the 99th Regiment of French Alpine Infantry, a mountain infantry unit which participated in both World Wars. He published on medical matters and later on archaeology and the topography of the French Alps, including apparently in 1956 his ideas on the question of how Hannibal crossed the Alps. In 1951 the Académie de Savoie awarded him a prize for history7. He died at Beaulieu-sur-Mer in the Alpes-Maritime, France on 25 Feb 1960 aged 80.

Sources:

1 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
3 Long Long Trail (LLT).
4 Medal Roll Index.
5 TNA. WO 417/2
6 www.findagrave.com
Law, John Gordon

**Birth Year:** 1890  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1906  
**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. East Surrey Regt.  
**Killed in action:** 1918  
**House:** DB  
**Unit:** 1st Bn. East Surreys  
**Buried:** Bethencourt, France  
**Reference:** C. 6.

**Died:** 20/10/18 aged 28

**Law, John Gordon**

**Obituary:** The Times (London). 29 Feb 1960; p14.

**Ancestry**

Charles S Gallannaugh February 2017

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

**Law, John Gordon**

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**Law:** John Gordon, 2nd Lieutenant. 1st Battalion East Surrey Regiment. Killed in action 20 October 1918, aged 28. John Gordon Law was born on 17 March 1890 in the parish of Kew Gardens, Surrey (GRO reference: Jun 1890 Richmond 2a 363), the son of John and Edith Florence Law (nee Cocking). John was baptised on 3 May 1890 in St John's church, Kew Road, Richmond. His 26 year old father was working as a banker's clerk, in the Joint Stock Bank in Charterhouse Street, when he married 25 year old Edith Florence Cocking on 2 April 1878, in the parish church St. Clements Danes near the Strand, London. Their home in 1881 was in 7, Richmond Terrace, Lambeth. hen their daughter Estelle Gladys was born in 1886 they had moved to Richmond, Surrey where John Gordon himself was born in 1890. On both the 1891 and 1901 censuses, the family was recorded as living at 11, The Avenue, Richmond, Surrey. Christmas day 1905 John Gordon's 76 year old grandfather John Law, a former bank manager, died in 'The Rhallt', Burgh Heath Road, Epsom, Surrey. He was buried on 29 December in grave A264 in Epsom cemetery. In February 1906, probate of his effects valued at £12,694 6s. 5d. was given to his son John Law, bank cashier. B 11 John Gordon and his family had moved to 5, Drayton Court, South Kensington S.W. John Gordon was now aged 21 and working as an articled clerk to a chartered accountant. His father filled out the census form stating that he and his wife of 33 years had had three children, one of whom had died. After recording his unmarried son John Gordon, he added the details of his unmarried 24 year old daughter Estelle. Estelle married John Edward Sharpe on 22 June 1916. Pr to John's education at Epsom College, his elementary education was also private. Whilst at Epsom College he joined the OTC on 1 January 1905, as a Private until he left the school in midsummer 1907. In February 1909 he joined the Territorial Army unit the London Rifle Brigade (LRB) as Rifleman 8581 but resigned in February 1914 for business reasons. On 1915 John married Edna Jenny Thompson in the Registrar's Office, Earls Court Road. Edna, born in 1896, was his next-of-kin and they lived at 9a, Lyric Road, Barnes, SW13. Their son Trevor John Beresford Law was born on 5 October 1915 in Mortlake. Trevor died in 1994 in Nottingham. The birth of their daughter Pamela Stella Law was registered in the September 1918 quarter in the St George Hanover Square registration district. John travelled on 6 December 1915 at Mortlake, was placed on the Army Reserve, but was not mobilised until 24 July 1916, when he joined the 2/5th Battalion London Regiment, for the duration of the war, as Rifleman 303157. He remained in England until 2 December 1916, and on 3 December embarked for France from Southampton, arriving at No.7 Infantry Base Depot, Havre on 4 December. Then on 24 December he was attached to No.1 Entrenching Battalion, and on 18 March 1917 he was posted to 2/5 Battalion London Regiment (2nd Battalion of the LRB), in the 174th (2/2nd London) Brigade, 58th (2/1st London) Division. John's battalion was facing the Germans' fortified trench system, the Hindenburg line, near Bullecourt when on 1 June 1917 he received a shrapnel wound to his right hand. He was admitted to the 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 2 June and transferred to the 60th Field Ambulance on the same day. On 6 June he was transferred to the 9th General hospital at Rouen, and on 12 June sent to 2nd Convalescent Depot in Rouen. Finally on 19 June he was sent to the 11th Convalescent Depot at Buchy and on 25 August he was discharged and joined No.7 Infantry Base Depot at Havre. On 20 October 1917 John applied for 'Admission to an Officer Cadet Unit with a view to Appointment to a Temporary Commission in the Regular army for the period of the War'. At the time of the application he gave his address as '14 Camp, 7 I.B.D. B.E.F. France'. and his occupation in civil life as an accountant and auditor. John was 5 feet 10½ inches tall, weighed 10 stone 12lbs, had a chest measurement of between 36 and 39 inches and 6/6 perfect vision in both eyes. John's military career as a Private soldier was about to end as on 29 September he returned to England to become a commissioned officer. On 7 December 1917 he was admitted to No.19 Officer Cadet Battalion at Pirbright, and on 25 May 1918 he was appointed Second Lieutenant in the East Surrey Regiment. His
Lieut. H Hawes, 1873
D.S.O.
1st Bn, South Wales Other Ranks
Buried 156 18 aged 41 Panel 22

Captain W.E. Crouch, M.C.
T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
384 16

Lawrence, Maj. William Lyttleton

Lawrence, Charles Andrew

Lawrence, William L

Lawrence, Maj. William Lyttleton

Lawrence, Charles Andrew

Lawrence, William L
William was born on 4 Sept 1873 (GRO Ref: Dec 1873 Chepstow 11a S), the youngest son of Dr Arthur Garnons Lawrence and his wife Edmundtina nee Snead. His parents had married in 1867 (GRO Ref: Sept 1867 Crickhowell 11b 177).

In the 1881 census for Wales the family was living in a seventeen roomed house, The Cedars, in Welsh Street, Chepstow. William’s father was a 43 year old medical practitioner and his mother was 36. Seven year old William had three siblings at home: his twin sister Edmundtina and older brothers Henry 10, and James 8. His brother Arthur Snead Lawrence was not at home.

William followed his eldest brother Arthur to Epsom College on 5 May 1886, joining the Lower Middle School, Forest House. Arthur died in 1895 when he was thrown from his horse.

William was an able student academically: in 1887 he came 9th out 21 boys in the Fourth Form, and 5th out of 19 boys in Upper Middle II on the classical side of the school the following year. In 1889 he came 2nd out of 22 boys in the Upper Middle I and in 1890 6th out of 13 boys in Fifth form. He had three pieces of work shown to the Headmaster as being especially worthy and he was awarded an extra prize for Geography. In 1891 received a prize for French. He was a sub prefect.

He was also a keen sportsman. He played a forward position in the College’s Rugby XV in 1890 and 1891, and the hockey XI which he captained in 1891. He was also Subaltern of the Cadet Corps in 1891.

He was confirmed on 9 March 1887.

He was recorded at the school in the 1891 census but left at Christmas to follow a career in the Regular Army. He was accepted as a cadet at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst in 1892 and was gazetted to the South Wales Borderers (SWB) in July 1893.

He became Lieutenant in Jan 1896. In Sept 1898 he travelled back from New York to Liverpool on the passenger ship “Russia”.

He served three years in Cairo, Egypt, two in Gibraltar and seven in India with the 124th Regiment, South Wales Borderers (SWB). He was SSO Cherat 1901-1902, SSO Dalhousie 1902-1905, was promoted to Captain in Sept 1904, and became adjutant to the battalion in Sept 1907. In Dec 1907 he was appointed ADC to a Divisional Command in India.

He was promoted to major on 4 Mar 1914 and became OC ‘C’ Coy of 1st Bn SWB.

In September 1914 the 1st Bn had advanced west of Vendresse and towards the slopes of the Chemin des Dames Ridge. They held positions north-west of Troyon against enemy attacks on 15 September but had to withdraw. Two companies took up positions in trenches around the Quarries on the Mont Faucon Ridge and two in reserve at Vendresse. The Germans attacked in large numbers at 0400 on 26 September and broke through the Battalion’s line. B and C Coys came up to support A and D Coys in the trenches. There was much hand to hand fighting with men grabbing whatever they could to defend the position. Despite the vastly superior force William with C Coy drove the enemy out of the quarry and held the line.

After this action William was sent for and personally complimented by Sir Douglas Haig who was the Corps Commander. Haig wrote “The conduct of the South Wales Borderers in driving back the strong attack made on them is particularly deserving of praise.” He also stated that he intended to forward William’s name for recognition of his fine work. In Sir John French’s despatch of 8 Oct 1914 William was specially mentioned and was awarded the DSO posthumously for gallantry and ability in repelling the enemy on 26 September 1914. Then they were sent to take part in the 1st Battle of Ypres.

“After ten days fighting in the mud and rain, William and 1 Bn SWB were trying to hold a position at Gheluvelt, a small village outside Ypres on a ridge that afforded the British observation positions. Gheluvelt became the scene of a significant action fought on 31 October 1914. The British Expeditionary Force was retreating and the road to the channel ports was in danger of being open to the German army. SWB Company was on the right of a small copse, in a fairly exposed position. They suffered shelling and sniping all through the night of 30/31 October and just before dawn were subjected to a tremendous bombardment. They held on, despite suffering losses, and were even able to counter attacks. At some time after 10.00 the Germans penetrated into Gheluvelt from the south and C Company found itself under rifle and machine gun fire from its right. William, although in an almost untenable position, set a magnificent example of steadfast courage. Even when the enemy got into a copse to the rear of C Company he told some of his men to turn round and fire over the parados. He was largely responsible for maintaining the line.

Out of William’s company of 200, only 28 remained at the end of the day: William, cut off and surrounded, refused to surrender and died a gallant gentleman fighting to the last. Their stand allowed the reserve platoons and some Scots Guards to counter attack and with the 2 Worcestershire Regiment made the flank secure before withdrawing to a new line 600 yards west of Gheluvelt. Gheluvelt is regarded as 1 SWB’s greatest achievement in WW1 because the line was held avoiding a German breakthrough.

Though he did not live to hear that the DSO had been conferred upon him, William had the satisfaction of knowing that he had left a record for having done his duty. The citation for his Distinguished Service Order acknowledged that” at Ypres Major Lawrence and his company held a quarry although heavily outnumbered.”

His obituary in The Epsomian noted that he was simple hearted, loyal, unselfish, and put his very best into everything he did. He is remembered on the Menin Gate memorial to the missing, panel 22 Ypres.

Probate for his estate valued at £839 2s was granted to his brother James Edward Garnons Lawrence, Solicitor. William’s address was given as St Lucia Barracks, Borden, Hampshire.

Sources:
British Battalions in France and Belgium 1914 Ray Westlake
Census returns 1881,1891
Lawrence, Maj. William Lyttleton, D.S.O., South Wales Borderers, brother of A. S. L. (1884), b. 1873, F., prefect, XV, h. XI, l. 1891 for R.M.C., killed in action 1914

Lawrence in the Forest House Rugby Team in 1891-2

Lawrence in the 1st XV 1892
De Ruvigny

Leahy, The Rev. Alexander Demund Butler

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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
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Leapingwell, Bernard Robert

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Leech, John

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Leech, John

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield
John was born on 22 November 1890 the son of George Henry Leech and Hannah (Annie) nee Clay, his wife. Hannah was a widow when she married John’s father, having been married to Thomas Dresden Wilde. She had three step-children Minnie, Edith and Frank Wilde and three sons of her own Ernest, Leonard and Edgar Clay Wilde. John was baptised at Christ Church, Godwick, Oldham on 22 Jan 1891 with his step brother Edgar. Their address was 58 Marlborough Street, Oldham.

In the 1891 census 4 month old Jack, as he was known, was living with his parents at their Marlborough Street home. George Henry Leech was a thirty two year old cotton and woollen flock manufacturer. Hannah was 37. Four of John’s step brothers and sisters-Minnie Wilde 22, Ernest Clay Wilde and Leonard Clay Wilde 10 year old twins and Edgar Arthur Clay Wilde who was 7 were also living there.

In the 1901 census Jack was recorded living with his mother Hannah at 16 Edward Street, Oldham. His step-brothers Ernest, who was working as a bank clerk and Leonard who was working as a commercial clerk were also living there. The family employed two servants. Jack entered Epsom College on 21 September 1905, joining Granville House but left suddenly in 1906. At the time the family was living at Roatti House, Werneth Hall Road, Oldham. He became a flock manufacturer.

In the 1911 census Jack was living with his widowed father, a cotton waste dealer, in the 9 roomed house at 140 Werneth Hall Road, Oldham, and working for him as a clerk.

Jack married Clara Ashton at St John’s church Oldham on 17 June 1914. He gave his occupation as cashier. The couple had two children Mavis Vera born on 14 June 1916 and Denis Arthur born on 3 Sept 1917.

Jack enlisted on 10 Dec 1915 at Oldham and was posted on 11 Dec to the Army Reserve. He had a medical 28 Sept 1916 at Ashton. He was 5ft 8ins tall with a 34½in chest that could expand to 37ins. He had defective vision in his left eye but it could be improved with glasses.

He was mobilized and posted on 29 Jan 1917. He joined 2 Depot as a gunner on 31 Jan 1917, moving to Inner Defences Portsmouth on 7 Feb 1917. On 25 April he was posted to 42 Coy to reinforce the Siege Depot at Bexhill. He embarked for France on 10 May 1917 and was posted to First Army pool RGA on 16 May 1917. On 25 May he was posted to no 1 Reinforcing Depot Siege Artillery. This series of moves was not unusual for a gunner, but culminated in his admission to hospital in the field 19 June 1917 with Myaligia, (severe muscular pains). He was invalided back to UK through 35 General Hospital at Calais and then on Hospital Ship Elizabeth and finally admitted to London General Hospital, St Marks College, Kings Road Chelsea on 28 June 1917. He remained there until 24 August, and less than a month later on 10 September 1917 he was admitted to hospital at the RA Command Depot, South Camp, Ripon until 9 November with Trench Fever. This was a fairly serious disease, probably carried by lice, that involved high fever and muscular pain.

After his recovery he served at home before being posted back to France on 18 Jan 1918.

He was killed in action on 20 April 1918 and buried at the Couin New British Cemetery Pas de Calais, grave B58. This cemetery was used by Field Ambulances from January 1917.

At the time of his death, Jack’s family’s address was 29 Kensington Road, Oldham. His British War and Victory medals were sent to his widow on 2 December 19218.

Clara and their two children were awarded a pension of 25s 5d a week (approx £1830).

Sources
Census 1881,91,1901,1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Parish registers (baptism and marriage
Service papers

Leech, John, s. of G. H. Leech, cotton and woollen flock manufacturer, of Oldham, b. 1890, G., l. 1906, flock manufacturer, Gunner, R.G.A., killed in action 1918
Leonard, as he was known, was born in 1887 (GRO Ref: Dec qtr 1887 Stow, Suffolk 4a 720) the son of Dr Arthur Herbert Leech MRCS, LSA and Annie Madeline nee Boghurst, his wife. His parents had married in the summer of 1886.

In the 1891 census the family was recorded at The White House, Woolpit, Suffolk. Leonard’s father was 32 years old and a registered General Medical Practitioner. His mother was 318 Leonard was 3 and his sister Emily 18 Leonard’s maternal grandmother, Frances Boghurst 61 and aunt Agnes Boghurst aged 35 were recorded with them. The family employed a cook, a housemaid and a nurse.

Leonard entered the Lower School at Epsom College in September 1899, having been awarded a Foundation Scholarship. This meant that he was considered to deserve a funded place. His father had practised medicine for six years at Woolpit in Suffolk, but had died in 1894 leaving Leonard’s mother and the two children with very limited means financially, other than a small allowance, help from family and friends and whatever William’s mother could earn through needlework. However, her sight began to fail which left the family almost entirely dependent on a relation. At this time they were living at Woodhouse, Broseley in Shropshire. Leonard was recorded at the school in the 1901 census. He became a keen member of the rifle corps.

Leonard left Epsom College in 1905 to pursue a profession in architecture. He was articled to a company in Ipswich Messrs Bisshop and Cautley 1905 -1909. He attended a London University course followed up by another at the Nottingham University and School of Art.

He was first an Assistant to Messrs Heazell & Sons Nottingham. (1909-1913). In the 1911 census he was recorded as an architect’s assistant boarding with another assistant with the Snushall family at 5 Waverley (?) Street, Nottingham. He obtained his ARIBA in June 1913 and was an assistant in the firm of Wratten and Godfrey, London. He was looking forward to the possibility of original work when the declaration of war interrupted his plans and he volunteered for military duty, Was also an Assistant Investigator and Recorder for the Greater London Royal Commission on Historic Buildings He travelled in France and Belgium. He passed the qualifying exam in 1914..

After five refusals because of his eyesight (he wore glasses) and he had to fall back regretfully on service as a special constable. In November 1914, however, he was accepted by 9th County of London (Queen Victoria’s) Rifles, joined the 1st battalion and was trained at Crowborough Camp. He refused corporal’s stripes thinking that it would keep him longer in England and on 26 March he went to France on active service. In April his regiment took its turn in the trenches at Ypres and during the relief handover on 8 April he received a gunshot wound in the jaw. He was operated on in Boulogne and was transferred quickly to Chatham and then to the Overcliff Red Cross Emergency Hospital at Westcliff-on-Sea, Kent. He seemed to be progressing favourably though often in terrible pain which he bore with great fortitude. On Friday 14 May 1915 a second operation became necessary from which he never recovered.

He is buried in Sutton Road Cemetery, Southend on Sea, plot E4454. He has civilian gravestone rather than the CWGC stone. He was always bright and cheerful in spite of his pain and was a general favourite in the hospital.

The writer of his obituary in The Epsomian had known him since his childhood and had been the recipient of his schoolboy confidences and youthful aspiration. He described Leonard Leech as “a clean living Englishman and a credit to the school which trained him Decet patriam nobis cariorem esse quam melipos”.

His mother applied for administration of his estate which was valued at £1951 18s 1d in 17 June 1915. This was revoked on 18 Nov 1915 and re-granted on 8 February 1916 with a will.

He was awarded the 1915 star, the British War and Victory medals

Sources
CWGC
De Ruvigny
The Epsomian July 1915
Epsom College Foundation Scholar applications
Medal Index card
The Times 18 May 1915
His obituary in the Journal of British Architects
His address in 1914 was 28 Egerton Gardens, West Ealing.


Leech, William Leonard Boghurst, s. of dr. A. H. Leech of Woolpit, Suffolk, b. 1887, L.S. and F., l. 1905, architect, Pte. Queen Victoria Rifles, d. of wounds 1915

Elizabeth Manterfield

LEECH William Leonard Boghurst Rifleman 3407, 1 Bn London Regt Queen Victoria’s Rifles
Friday 14 May 1915

Leigh, Lt.-Col. Reginald Heber
Birth Year:        Entered Epsom College:  1902
House:            HMM?  ☐
Decorations:   M.C.
Percy was born in 1873 (GRO Ref: Dec 1873 West Ham 4a 39) the son of Dr George Levick MRCS, LSA and Martha nee Curtis his wife. They had married in West Ham in 1866.

In 1871, before Percy’s birth, George and his family were living at 30 Church Street West Ham. George Levick MRCS was 29 and working as a doctor, Martha was 30 and had given birth to two children George aged 2 and Edith aged 11 mths. Dr Levick’s sister Ellen aged 21 was living with the family and they employed a general servant and a nursemaid.

By 1881 Percy had arrived and was living at 30 Church Street West Ham with his widowed mother Martha aged 40 and his siblings George 12, Edith 11, Christopher 9 and Maud 5. His aunt Ellen Levick and grandmother Sarah Curtis 63 were also living with them. The family employed a cook and a general maid. Percy’s father had died just before the census on 23 March 1881.

Percy entered Epsom College in 1886 as a Foundation Scholar. This meant that he was considered to deserve a funded place at the school. At the time of his application the family was living at 5 Granville Terrace, Carnavon Road, Stratford, East London.

(Percy had arrived and was living at 30 Church Street West Ham with his widowed mother Martha aged 40 and his siblings George 12, Edith 11, Christopher 9 and Maud 5. His aunt Ellen Levick and grandmother Sarah Curtis 63 were also living with them. The family employed a cook and a general maid. Percy’s father had died just before the census on 23 March 1881.) His father had practised as a doctor for eighteen years in West Ham but had left his family unprovided for.

Percy was an all round performer. In 1890 he passed in the first division of the London Matriculation exam. He won the Wakley leaving prize of £20, the Propert prize in 1892 consisting of a bronze medal and £20 awarded to the boy who either at school or had recently left and achieved the highest honours during the year, and the 1892 Watts prize awarded to the boy who did best in the terminal exams in a scientific subject. He won the 1892 Harvey Owen scholarship of £50 for 4 years awarded to the Foundation Scholar to be held at a university or hospital. He matriculated in 1892. He also won a Kings College scholarship and the School Divinity prize. He finished as top pupil in the Modern Sixth form (19 boys) and received the form prize. He became a sub-prefect in 1890 and a prefect in 1891.

Percy was a prominent athlete and sportsman at Epsom. He was in the Cricket 1st XI for four years and Captain in 1891 and 92. In the cricket critiques he was identified as a very promising player all round. In 1890 he bowled well throughout the season, never getting tired and threw well. He also excelled at Fives, being Captain and Champion, and played in the Hockey 1st XI.

He won an open Scholarship to Jesus College Cambridge, where he graduated with a B.A. in Natural Science in 1895, and M.B. and B.C. in 1896. He continued to excel at sport and played cricket for Jesus College where he was considered to be a useful bowler. He also played hockey for Cambridge University.

He proceeded to King's College Hospital where he won the gold medal and took the surgery and pathological anatomy prizes. He was awarded a certificate of distinction for hygiene.

After filling the posts of house surgeon and of clinical aural assistant at King's College Hospital, he went into practice at Guildford. He worked with Dr Gabb for nearly twenty years and was much beloved by all his patients, young and old. He was also honorary medical officer of the Royal Surrey County Hospital. He had served as medical examiner of recruits at Guildford prior to taking a temporary commission in the R.A.M.C.

In 1911 census he was living in an 8 roomed house Oatlands, Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey.

He joined the RAMC as a temporary Captain and was then made Captain of the Guards Divisional Ammunition Column (DAC). Percy was posted to France 21 Jan 1917. Percy was accidentally killed near Arras in France in 1918 aged 33 whilst working with the ammunition column. He was on horseback when his horse slipped, fell and threw him beneath a motor lorry.

A correspondent wrote of him “Dr Levick was a bachelor and all his thoughts and affections were devoted to his patients. One cannot help comparing him with men of long ago like St Francis and St Martin, although no one would have charge him with an
ostentatious profession of piety. In France he privately provided a hospital to accommodate about ninety men and his loss will
be felt as keenly in France as at home, he died as he would have wished-working for the alleviation of the sufferings of others.”
He is buried at Anzin-St. Aubin British Cemetery on the north-western outskirts of Arras, grave IV A 118
He was awarded the British victory and War medals which were sent to his sister Miss E Levick at 203 Romford Road, Forest
Gate. Probate was granted on 9 May 1918 to his brother Christopher Levick, solicitor. He left £5388 18s 6d.
He is remembered on the memorials in Kings College Chapel and in the vestibule of Kings College Hospital in Denmark Hill, on
the memorial of Jesus College, Cambridge and on the Guildford war memorial and on the Holy Trinity memorial Guildford,
which comprises 3 sanctuary lamps and a tablet.

There was a memorial in the old Royal Surrey County Hospital building raised by his fellow officers as he was formerly a
Guildford doctor.
Surrey Advertiser death notice gave his address as Stoke Lodge, London Road, Guildford.

Sources
British Medical Journal 9 Oct. 1897
Census 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
Chelmsford chronicle 1 Apr 1881
Kings College London Archives
Times
Epsom College foundation application
Epsom College Register printed and m/s
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Levick, Percy, brother of G. K. L. (1882), b. 1873, C., prefect, XI (capt.), h. XI, Fives Ch., Wakley, Propert, and Watts Prs., l. 1892,
schol. of Jesus Coll., Camb, and King’s Coll. Hosp., B.A., M.VB., B.Ch., T/Capt. R.A.M.C., accidentally killed in France 1918

Levick as Captain of Cricket in the Representative photograph, 1892
Percy Levick from 1891 Carr House photograph

Levick as Captain of Cricket in 1891

Percy Levick in the Jesus College Cricket Team of 1893
Lewis, The Rev. Lewis Sidney

- Birth Year: 1882
- Entered Epsom College: 1895
- Regiment: Hon. C.F. 1914-18

Researcher:

Lewis, Thomas Frederick Aylmer

- Birth Year: 1898
- Entered Epsom College: 1912
- Regiment: Gunner, Canadian R.A.

Researcher:

Lidiard, Bernard Sydney

- Birth Year: 1894
- Entered Epsom College: 1905
- Regiment: T/Lt. Manchester Regt. and M.G.C. 1914-18

Researcher:

Lindsay, William Joseph

- Birth Year: 1869
- Entered Epsom College: 1886
- Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-1919

Researcher:
Lindsay, William Joseph, M.B.E., s. of the Rev. Thomas Lindsay, Castle Ellis Rectory, co. Wexford, b. 1871, W., l. 1887, Sid. Sus. Coll., Camb, and Guy's Hosp., M.A., M.D., B.C., D.P.H., civil surgeon S.A. War, T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-19, d. 1938

Lindup, Group Capt. Charles Arthur, R.A.F.

Birth Year: 1896
Regiment: T/Capt. Queen's (R.W.S.) Regt. 1914-18

Lithgow, Cdr. (E.) Campbell McGregor

Birth Year: 1900
Regiment: Cdr. (E.) R.N.

Little, Capt. Gerald Lewis

Birth Year: 1883
Regiment: Capt. I.M.S.

Little, Joseph Pearson

Birth Year: 1886
Regiment: Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Llewellyn, Brian

Birth Year: 1898
Regiment: Capt. I.M.S.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Major Brian Llewelyn M.C.*, 1895 – 1960

Brian Llewellyn (BL) was born on 17th November 1895 in Oorgaum, Mysore S.India. The younger child of Arthur Llewellyn, a mining engineer born in Truro and his wife Dorothea Kreindal, possibly born in Austria. BL was baptised in St Michael and All Angels Church in the Kolar Gold Field the following April. His sister, Phyllis, had also been born in Oorgaum the year before. In due course the parents divorced their father returning to England and their mother moving to South Africa where she apparently re-married and became well known as a speaker in the pacifist movement in the 1930’s (Ancestry).

In the 1911 census BL and his sister are found as visitors in the house of the Gandy family, presumably family friends where they were apparently resident, in Burgh Heath Road, Epsom. Phyllis was at a local school and Brian at the College. Their father was living then in Herne Hill although later he returned to Cornwall where he died in 1934 in Redruth.

In 1908 Edith Gandy, named as BL’s guardian, entered him for Epsom College where he attended as a Home Boarder starting in Form III. He moved steadily up the school on the Modern side usually placed in the centre of the class ranking at the end of the year until his final year in the Modern Fifth when he was placed 4th out of 225, in that year he won the German prize and passed his school certificate and London Matriculation. He was a member of the College Bisley VIII 6.

In July 1912 he left school and went up to study at the Royal School of Mines which in 1907 had become part of Imperial College London 1. He distinguished himself there by becoming a member of the Rowing VIII and winning the Mining & Metal prize before qualifying BSc (Lond). In due course he became an Associate of the Royal School of Mines (ARSM 1st Class Mining) 6.

However in December 1914 the war intervened and he was commissioned into the Royal Engineers (RE) as a Temporary 2nd Lieutenant (LG28998 p 10417). He joined the 89th Field Coy. RE which was part of the 23rd Division which later in 1915 became the 14th (Light) Division. The Division was formed of volunteers initially and then supplemented by units of the regular army. It was judged ready to move to the Western Front by May 1915 but was delayed by a lack of rifle and artillery ammunition, a problem which beset the whole British military at that time. He served on the Western Front throughout the war and was engaged in some of the heaviest fighting.

His personal record was moved to the Ministry of Defence after the war and is not in the public domain, if it still survives, as indicated by the prefix ‘P’ before his Long Number. Many of these records were destroyed by enemy action in WW2. However it is possible to follow his service throughout the hostilities form May 1915 until June 1919 through a study of the Company War Diary3.

The 89 Field Coy RE left Aldershot on the 22 May 1915 for Southampton. The horses and transport embarked on one boat under the command of a Lt Calvert with the 41st Division and the dismounted troops followed to Havre on the ship St Petersburg. They then entrained for St Omer, in due course moving on to their expected destination of Vlamertinghe just west of Ypres. Here they came under the command of the Commander Royal Engineers (CRE) of the 14th Division from whom they took orders.

After settling in in exceptionally hot weather they were initially engaged in setting up machine gun placements, trench digging and communication trench building. On the 6th June they were sent a few miles north to Poperinge to carry out hut construction. Materials were obtained from Stavele and Bailleul not far away and the military employed civilian labour on the work who apparently worked well alongside the sappers. However they soon returned to their base at Vlamertinghe before moving to the front line at Ypres on the 25th June. Here they soon began to take casualties.

The first reference to BL in the diary is in an attached appendix dated 28th June 1915 in which the adjutant laid down instructions for work to be carried out by his Section. In mid-July 2/Lts Calvert and Llewellyn were involved in strengthening the cellars of the École at Ypres which were being used as a headquarters.

At the end of July and beginning of August the company, fighting alongside troops of the 7th, 8th and 9th King’s Royal Rifle Corps, the Duke of Cornwall’s Light Infantry and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, took part in the attack on Hooge, just 4 miles east of Ypres. Here the Division was the first to be attacked by Germans firing flamethrowers 2. On the 8th August “Lt Llewellyn was wounded. OR’s 3 killed, 5 wounded and 6 sl. wounded.” In the next entry the adjutant wrote “ Went to front trenches at night and tried to find Llewellyn, wounded”. The attempt to find him or recover his body was unsuccessful and there is no further reference to him for some time. However it later becomes clear that he must have been picked up by a field ambulance team and taken no doubt to a casualty clearing station before being evacuated from the battlefield. The 14th Division lost just under 2,500 men on the 30th July alone 3.
The Coy remained at Vlamerton moving in and out of the front line throughout September, under heavy shelling much of the time and taking casualties. Tunnelling and trench digging seems to have been the principal activity. A lieutenant was suspended from duty regarding “his manners to officers and men” and removal from the Coy was recommended. With the value of hindsight it seems very likely he had suffered a mental breakdown as a result of the appalling conditions. Throughout November the weather was wet and cold and they were very much in the front line being shelled and bombed and taking casualties. Trenches were falling in and had to be restored although they were under attack all the time. Living conditions in January were recorded as atrocious and the Coy was becoming seriously depleted of NCO's. Gas alerts added to their misery.

On the 13th of February 2016 they left Vlamerton where they had been for 8 months. No transport was available, the weather was very bad and they had to march, eventually arriving at new billets at Herzelee. There, no doubt much to the surprise of the Colonel, on 19th February “Lt Llewellyn rejoined the Coy unexpectedly”.

They thought that they were to rest for a while but after a few days at Herzelee orders were received in the middle of the night that the brigade and division were to move and on the 22nd they entrained for Amiens. Soon after they were moved to Fresvillers and were then ordered to march for several days in dismal weather to Humbercourt, and Fosseux eventually arriving at Dainville just west of Arras. Captain Benskin and 2/Lt Llewellyn with 2 sappers had left early on the morning of the 28th acting as an advance party to reconnoitre Dainville before the rest of the Coy. arrived. The following day “Captain Benskin and 2/Lt Llewellyn went round the right and left section of the trench front at Agny and Achicourt respectively. Condition of trenches very good”. They were now very much at the battle front again.

March 1916 was a busy month for the Coy. On the 19th Lt Llewellyn was left in charge at Dainville when the Coy. moved briefly 6 miles west to Hautvillers to carry out works and then on 23rd he rode to Warlus a short distance from Dainville to inspect improvements to the Royal Artillery (RA) HQ there. On the 25th: “ --- employed on construction of 1 new dug-out and improvements to others, strengthening of machine gun emplacements, fixing gas proof curtain frames on dug-outs, fixing up bunks in some crowded infantry dug-outs behind front line. Lt Llewellyn went out on reconnaissance for materials for front line. Road finger posts (13) sent to APM (Acting Provost Marshall) at Warlus”.

On the 28th “Lt Llewellyn rode over to Warlus to inspect Armstrong huts for RA and then to Fosseux to inspect an incinerator. Very bad weather”. By the 30th the weather had improved and work was proceeding as normal. The diary recorded: “Lt Llewellyn went out in morning to correct a portion of the map. Am trying to get rid of a worthless mule which has been dumped on us by the 62nd Coy”. Clearly the adjutant had problems on his hands which were not all of the enemy’s making. At the beginning of April Llewellyn with No.1 section, which he commanded, was engaged on work in the front line. They were sent briefly over to Hautvillers but were back in the front line again by 29th April. On 1st May at Chateau D’Agny they were “on front line work – strengthening Lewis gun emplacements, reclaiming dug-outs and reclaiming wells in Agny”. However at 8am that day BL reported sick and on the 2nd the adjutant noted “Lt Llewellyn to 44th Field Ambulance at Fosseux (about 6 miles west of the front) for probably a fortnight”. He returned to the Coy on the 19th May and a couple of days later relieved Lt Boyd Carpenter at Hautville possibly to give him a short break from the front to fully recover.

However 2 days later he was back at Arras and on the 1st June “No 1 and No 3 under 2/Lt Llewellyn in Agny 43 Bde front”. On the 3rd June the following note was made in the diary: “Captain Benskin awarded the D.S.O., 2/Lt Llewellyn Mil. Cross, 2/Lt (late CSM) Lockwood D.C.M., CSM Elton Mil Medal”. As the honours were published in the London Gazette on the King’s birthday (LG 29608 p5575) no citation accompanied them, the normal custom in those circumstances. There was little time for celebration with the line being constantly bombarded with mortar and shell fire. On 5th July “Enemy very bumptious: trench mortared .... 4 men get shell shock”, and at the end of the month; “2/Lt Llewellyn promoted Lieutenant” (LG 29675 p7217).

On the 1st August 1916 the Coy marched to Le Bretel a suburb of Doullens, a distance of about 17 miles, then on to Dermancourt and finally Fricourt about 2.5 miles east of Albert. Initially they were involved in training and then laying wire. By the middle of August they were under frequent fire at Delville Wood. A sergeant was killed and others wounded whilst laying trenches. From the 21st until 28th they were constantly shelled and casualties were heavy. On the 28th Lt Boyd Carpenter was killed and although a party was sent on the following day to recover his body it was not found.

The Coy was moved to Frettecuisse a small village about 16 miles south of Abbeville on 1st September to allow it to recover after its involvement in the Somme offensive. As the adjutant put it time was spent “resting, cleaning up and endeavouring to buck up NCO’s and men who were in a rather bad way due to loss of 3 officers and many NCO’s”. Lt Llewellyn took 48 hrs leave at Le Treport, a small coastal resort between Dieppe and Le Touquet, from 4th to 6th of September but very soon the Coy was back in action. On 9th September “Transport and cyclists moved to Ailly-sur-Somme with 41st Infantry Brigade Group. Left Frettecuisse at 9am under Lt Llewellyn”. By the 14th they were once again at Fricourt and Delville Wood taking casualties and by the end of the month they were back in Arras.

The diary1 gives details of the losses they had recently sustained in the entry for 10th October 1916. “Casualties in 89 Field Coy in Somme offensive August 12th to September 16th were:-

1 Officer Killed
3 Officers Wounded
OR’s – 6 Killed in Action. 1 Killed in accident
2 died of wounds
In October BL took another short rest it being noted on 23rd October that “Lt B Llewellyn MC returned from leave”. At the end of November the Coy moved back to Gouy about 3 miles west of Arras where they undertook training and set up the Brigade School of Fieldworks. November and December were spent on routine activity in the region, wood cutting, clearing brushwood and constructing horse troughs before the Coy was moved back near to Arras. On 15th January 1917 “Lt Llewellyn and 1 section attached to 61st Field Coy for special work in “F” Sector”. They returned on the 22nd and were then engaged in constructing tramways and roads in the Arras area presumably to facilitate movement of stores and ammunition. This work was supplemented by strengthening cellars and gun positions and laying signal lines as well as training infantrymen in the use of explosives such as the ‘Bangalore Torpedo’ to breach wire. Working with another officer on 23rd March, Lt Prescott, “Lt Llewellyn with No 1 (section) lay out new front line” and later that same day “Lts Prescott and Llewellyn tape out more assembly trenches”.

On 14th March: “Lts Llewellyn & Prescott taping out new trenches; covering party lose themselves & Prescott stumbles into Bosch patrol. Loses 2 fingers and also hit in knee. Cpl Wakelin & sapper Rose also wounded. Bosch clear off and L/Cpl Grierson with the other 2 sappers carry in wounded”.

On the 27th March the Diary records “Company having suffered higher % of casualties than any other unit in Division is to be taken out of the line tonight”. Then on the 8th of April 1917, the day before the battle for Vimy Ridge began “OC & Lts Llewellyn & Mowbray, 4 sections and 1 tool cart, 1 forage cart, & 3 pontoons proceed to bivouac near Groupe du Maisons. Remainder of Coy and transport remains at Dainville. Bivouac shelled at night.”

This was the last mention of Lt Llewellyn in the War Diary of 89th Coy. The Coy was heavily involved in the Arras offensive of April 1917 and throughout the first 6 months of 1917 they were working in or just behind the front line taking casualties in support of the infantry often under shellfire and bombing attacks from the air. It is possible that he was injured again when the bivouac was shelled on the night of the 8th April although there is no record of this. The Coy remained in action until the end of the war and finally on 17th June 1919 as they left for England the War Diary recorded “89 Field Coy RE then completed 49 months service with the British Army in France & Flanders”.

The pressure the Coy had been under throughout the war is symbolised by the citation recording the award of a Bar to the Military Cross (*) which BL received on 29th July 1918 (LG 30813 p8761): “/Lt (A/Capt) B Llewellyn MC RE For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a hostile attack. On two occasions he crossed ground heavily swept by machine-gun fire to bring up ammunition. He showed great coolness and cheerfulness throughout the action and set a fine example”.

Somewhere BL survived the war. It is possible that he had been wounded again on 8th April 1917 when the bivouacs were shelled and then after recovery returned to the front with one of the other RE Companies in the 14th Division, either the 61st or 62nd, in due course to be awarded the Bar to his MC. At one time, as noted above, he had been seconded to 61st Field Coy for a short time. However a search of the war diaries of the 61st and 62nd Field Regts. RE after 8th April 1917 revealed no mention of him although officers’ names are usually only mentioned occasionally. Unusually there is no mention of his receiving his second MC in the War Diary of the 89th Coy RE. The medal roll index notes his application for war medals made on 19th September 1921 and the 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal were sent to his father’s address, The Oaks, Grange Road, Upper Norwood. It was noted in the index that there was no record mentioning his promotion to T/Captain as recorded in the London Gazette suggesting some of his records may have been lost.

After the war he remained in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers (RARO) but he resumed his career as a mining engineer and became a surveyor to Bolivia Mines living in Columbia for some time 6. In 1935 the Army List records him as a Captain in the Mining Branch of the RE 4 and again in August 1938 he was recorded again in the RARO, then as a T/Major. In April 1940 the Western Morning News Plymouth edition announced that he was to marry and in May 1940 he married Annie Morley Morrison in Edinburgh with whom he had a daughter Jennifer born in 1942. Tragically as a young mother and not long after her marriage she was killed in a road accident in 1950 when only 28.

Eventually he retired to live at Hawkmoor House, Devon Consols, Tavistock and he died in Tavistock on 22nd February 1960 leaving his family comfortably provided for (Probate record). His wife died in Harrow in 1984 aged 75.

Sources:

Ancestry
London Gazette (LG)
The National Archive (TNA) Long Number WO 338/12/9 P/152505 (103610)
1University London War List 1914 – 1918
2TNA WO 95/1889/3 89 Field Company Royal Engineers War Diary.
3The Long , Long Trail (LLT)
4Forces War Records
5Epsom College Yellow Book
Llewellyn, Brian, M.C. and bar, s. of Arthur Llewellyn, mechanical engineer, of Margaret Street, W.C. i, b. 1895, D.B., German Pr., l. 1912, Lond. U., B.Sc., A.R.S.M., mining engineer and company director, T/Maj. R.E. 1914-18; Hawkmoor House, Devon Consols, Tavistock

The Memorial to 14 (Light) Division at Hill 60 near Ypres (LLT)

Major Llewelyn, MC*

Lloyd, Ifor Hughes

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
<th>House:</th>
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<td>T/Surg. R.N. 1917-18</td>
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Lloyd, Thomas Ifor Llewellyn

Lloyd, Thomas Ifor Llewellyn, Decorations:
Lloyd, Thomas Ifor Llewellyn, s. of dr. T. E. Lloyd of Abergavenny, 1897, W., l. 1914, occupation unknown, Lieut. (S.R.) Mon. Regt. 1914-1918

Lockhart, William Alan

Lockhart, William Alan, s. of W. C. Lockhart, underwriter, of Epsom, b. 1897, D.B., l. 1914, underwriter, T/Lt., A/Capt. R.A. 1914-1918, father of A. W. C. L. (1937); 64 Alexandra Road, Epsom

Lodge, Samuel Durham


Lodge, Thomas Arthur


Longbotham, Joseph Currer Busfield

Longbotham, Joseph Currer Busfield, brother of the above, b. 1880, C., l. 1892, coal exporter, T/Capt. (P.O.W. Own) Yorks Regt., R.F.C. and R.A.F. 1914-18, F.O. R.A.F.V.R. 1939-45; Wensley Hall, Leyburn, Yorks
Frank Baigrie Lord (FBL) was born in Armagh in 1877 the son of an Irish doctor, Robert Gilman Lord (1821-1902) who had served with the Bombay Medical Service eventually becoming Deputy Surgeon General[1]. He and his wife, Annie Marie Theresa Lucas (1839-1928), married in Poona near Bombay in 1870 and after moving back to Ireland had five sons. Robert John Cornwallis (1871-1902) after Oxford went into the Indian Civil Service and John Percival (1873-NK) went to Cambridge and became an analyst and author in the chemical industry. Hugh Probyn Malet (1878-NK), born next after Frank, became a Lt-Colonel in the Indian army and Arthur (1880-1941), born in Devon unlike his brothers who were all born in Ireland, was a professor of philosophy at Rhodes University South Africa1. He died in South Africa in 1941.

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In due course he was awarded the Queen’s (Victoria) South Africa Medal and 5 Clasps for service in Paardeberg, Dreifontein, the Relief of Kimberley, Cape Colony and the Transvaal(4). It is also recorded on the Medal Rolls that he was “invalided home on 30.04.1901”. In January 1903 a medal roll record submitted to the War Office regarding 42 Coy. A.S.C. was signed by Capt. F.B. Lord who was then O.C. 42 Coy. in station at the Curragh Camp in Ireland. According to the Curragh Camp website “by the end of the (19th) Century the camp became a divisional HQ and soldiers were trained there for fighting in the Boer War”. It is now the training HQ for the Irish Army.

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His experience and organisational skills were soon needed nearer to the front line. In December 1915 he landed in France(4) and on the 18th December took command of the 24th Divisional Train A.S.C., then at Salperwick, which consisted of 194,195,196 and 197 Companies A.S.C. According to the War Diary(6) the unit had landed in France on 29th August 1915 and was soon at Reninghelst south of Poperinghe approximately 5 miles east of Ypres in Flanders. In late October the 24th Division was visited by HM King George V at Reninghelst when the A.S.C. Train was carrying out its task of delivering supplies to the front line, organising provisions for horses and mule trains, maintaining wagons and in November arranging issue of coal from the railhead at Poperinghe.

Soon after his arrival in December Major F.B. Lord was promoted to T/Lt Colonel. It is clear from a study of the War Diary that maintaining discipline amongst the drivers in the Companies, many of whom lived on the fringes of society in civilian life, was not easy and there were many references to the setting up of Field General Court Martials and Courts of Inquiry to deal with soldiers who had offended against the current military regime. One of the most serious matters he had to contend with occurred shortly after his arrival as C.O. On 9th January 1916 the Div. Train arrived at Busseboom a village between Poperinghe and Reninghelst. Then on 11th February 1916 a soldier who had been drinking ran amok with a rifle and whilst intending to shoot a C.S.M. Bagshaw, against whom he held a grudge, shot another man by mistake. A series of extracts from the War Diary(6), written by FBL, gives an illuminating portrayal of the way in which the army dealt with such serious matters in the midst of the fighting during The Great War:-

11/2/16. S. Sergt. Farrier Pick, 197 Coy was shot by Dr [Driver] T Moore same Coy at about 11.35pm. Went up at 11.45pm to Camp to investigate and arrange for custody of prisoner – Pick dead. Got 74 Fd. Ambce. to take away body – got to bed about 4.45am. Heavy bombardment on whole front began at dusk.

12/2/16 Case of Dr Moore investigated by Major Blakeway. Remanded for FGCM (Field General Court Marshall) on charge of murder. Aeroplane attack near our camps – Driver Lasley 194 Coy killed by bomb. Major Hunter took summary of evidence but had to stop owing to distraction of witnesses caused by bomb dropping – Paraded No 197 Coy and strafed them for behaviour when Dr Moore threatened to shoot Capt. Thompson [who had intervened] and for not going for the man and disarming him,
also for conduct generally. – Poperinge shelled. Heavy bombardment continued all day up to about 6pm.

13/2/16 ----- sent on Dr Moore’s case for FGCM ----- 14/2/16 ------ Saw G.O.C. (Major General Thompson Capper, Commanding Officer 24th Division) re Court Martial for Dr Moore – he expressed great dissatisfaction re conduct of men of 197 Coy- said he would parade them tomorrow 5.30pm and speak to them – Parade ordered and G.O.C’s view told to OC 197 Coy. ---

15/2/16 ------ Officers, NCOs & men of 197 Coy. paraded at 5.30pm and addressed by G.O.C. 24th Divn. on the subject of regrettable crime in the Coy.

18/2/16 Trial of Dr T Moore on a charge of murder. Court opened 10am closed at 5.20pm. Aeroplane dropped 11 bombs about 8.30am to the west of our camp.

26/2/16 4.30 am. Promulgation of F.G.C.M. of Dr T Moore 97 Coy A.S.C. on charge of murder to prisoner.

5.40 am Dr T Moore shot. Buried Map Ref Sheet 28 G22 6.8.8. Promulgated to 197 Coy 5.30 am

Thus Dvr. Thomas Moore progressed within 15 days from serving as a member of the B.E.F. fighting the enemy, on behalf of his country, to being shot at dawn by members of his own Company for murder of a fellow soldier. FBL was responsible for organising the firing squad and supervising the execution and its aftermath[7]. Moore’s body was buried at Devonshire Farm, Busseboom where it remains although he is recorded as ‘missing’ on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres[8]. His victim Sergeant Farrier James Pick was buried in Poperinge New Military Cemetery grave 1.F.128. A more detailed description of the case is given by Julian Putkowski and Mark Dunning in their book Murderous Tommies[7] where they address the question of Moore’s mental state at the time of the murder and the cursory investigation which was undertaken with regard to it. During the same period three other FGCMs were going on regarding drivers in the 24th Divisional Train, albeit for lesser matters, and having organised the firing party and supervised the execution of Moore at 5.40 am, the War Diary records that the Colonel promulgated – a term much used by the military concerning such matters - the results of these to 194 Coy. and 195 Coy. at 6.00 am and 6.30 am respectively. Such niceties as prolonged in depth investigations into what to the military mind at the battle front was an obvious serious criminal act did not loom large in times when death in action was a regular occurrence. What concerned senior officers was that an example should be set quickly to prevent a repetition of the offence and a breakdown of “Good Order and Military Discipline”.

The 24th Divisional Train was involved in the thick of the fighting in the Ypres and Somme areas during the two years in which FBL was its commanding officer. As the war continued so did the daily grind for the Companies which made up the Train. Work involved providing wagon loads of supplies to the troops in the trenches, looking after the horses and communicating with the Remount Companies when horses were required to replace those that had died or been killed. They also advised the Field Ambulance and other services when wagons needed repair or replacement, while at all times they were being attacked, gassed or bombed by the enemy and the Flanders mud rendered their task ever more difficult. On many occasions a note was made in the diary regarding admission to hospital due to sickness of officers, including FBL, who no doubt succumbed to the appalling conditions in the trenches as did the troops they commanded. In August 1916 brief mention was made again of a “visit of H.M. King George V” to the 24th Division. At the end of September FBL went on leave to England for ten days and then on 12th December he was admitted to hospital returning to duty on Christmas Day.

In the latter part of his despatch of 29th December 1916 (LG 29884 p12733) Sir Douglas Haig described the struggles of the latter half of 1916 including the Battle of the Somme and his tribute to the ASC and other support services was fulsome. “The maintenance of large armies in a great battle under modern conditions is a colossal task. Though bad weather often added very considerably to the difficulties of transport, the troops never wanted for food, ammunition, or any of the other many and varied requirements for the supply of which these Services and Departments are responsible.” Among those he considered worthy of special mention (MID) was Lt Col F.B. Lord. (LG29890 p244).

In April 1917 it was announced in the diary that “Major (T/Lt Col) F.B. Lord promoted to Lt Col. as from 1.4.17” (LG 30065 p4605)[6]. In May he again, together with a number of his officers, was mentioned in despatches by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig (LG 30101 p5316) in which he paid tribute to the enormous task faced by the transport services during the winter and spring offensives of 1916/17 in the presence of appalling weather conditions, a feature that was frequently mentioned in the war diary of the 24th Divisional Train. In the Birthday Honours in June 1917 FBL was awarded the D.S.O. ‘For distinguished service in the field’ (LG 30111 p5471).

On the 21st December 1917 he was admitted to hospital from the front and subsequently relinquished command of the 24th Divisional Train. On 7th January 1918 at Vraignes Lt. Col. A.G. Galloway D.S.O. assumed command. In October 1921 FBL retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel seniority being back dated to December 1915 the date when he took over command of 24th Divisional Train (LG 32629 p1918). In July 1931 having reached the age limit for liability to recall he ceased to belong to the reserve of officers (LG 33733 p4440).

He died at his home Litchford Rd., New Milton, Hampshire on the 7th April 1936, age 59, leaving a small estate to his widow. She died in Hampshire in 1967 age 87.

Sources:
1 Ancestry: Public Member Trees.
2 Epsom College Registers 1855-1954 & ‘Yellow Book’.
4 Medal roll cards and index.
5 LLT – The Long, Long Trail
6 TNA – The National Archives WO 95/2203/4
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In 1906 at Chapel le Frith in Derbyshire he married Evelyn Martha Cooper and they were to have a son 1. No further details have been found.

He appears to have remained on the Staff and in September 1912 was promoted to Major (LG 28647 p7023). By August 1914 he was working at the War Office in a temporary appointment as Deputy Assistant Director of Supplies & Transport (DAD S&T). By April 1915 he was moved from this post to a special appointment and became Assistant Adjutant & Quartermaster General at the War Office (LG 29145 p4063).

His experience and organisational skills were soon needed nearer to the front line. In December 1915 he landed in France and on the 18th December took command of the 24th Divisional Train A.S.C., then at Salperwick, which consisted of 194,195,196 and 197 Companies A.S.C. According to the War Diary6 the unit had landed in France on 29th August 1915 and was soon at Reninghelst south of Poperingehe approximately 5 miles east of Ypres in Flanders. In late October the 24th Division was visited by HM King George V at Reninghelst when the A.S.C. Train was carrying out its task of delivering supplies to the front line, organising provisions for horses and mule trains, maintaining wagons and in November arranging issue of coal from the railhead at Poperingehe.

Soon after his arrival in December Major F.B. Lord was promoted to T/Lt Colonel. It is clear from a study of the War Diary that maintaining discipline amongst the drivers in the Companies, many of whom lived on the fringes of society in civilian life, was not easy and there were many references to the setting up of Field General Court Martials and Courts of Inquiry to deal with soldiers who had offended against the current military regime. One of the most serious matters he had to contend with occurred shortly after his arrival
as C.O. On 9th January 1916 the Div. Train arrived at Busseboom a village between Poperinghe and Reminghelst. There on 11th February 1916 a soldier who had been drinking ran amok with a rifle and whilst intending to shoot a C.S.M. Bagshaw, against whom he held a grudge, shot another man by mistake. A series of extracts from the War Diary6, written by FBL, gives an illuminating portrayal of the way in which the army dealt with such serious matters in the midst of the fighting during The Great War:-

11/2/16. S. Sergt. Farrier Pick, 197 Coy was shot by Dr [Driver] T Moore same Coy at about 11.35pm. Went up at 11.45pm to Camp to investigate and arrange for custody of prisoner – Pick dead. Got 74 Fd. Ambce. to take away body – got to bed about 4.45am. Heavy bombardment on whole front began at dusk.

12/2/16 Case of Dr Moore investigated by Major Blakeway. Remanded for FGCM [Field General Court Marshall] on charge of murder. Aeroplane attack near our camps – Driver Lasley 194 Coy killed by bomb. Major Hunter took summary of evidence but had to stop owing to distraction of witnesses caused by bomb dropping – Paraded No 197 Coy and strafed them for behaviour when Dr Moore threatened to shoot Capt. Thompson (who had intervened) and for not going for the man and disarming him, also for conduct generally. – Poperinghe shelled. Heavy bombardment continued all day up to about 6pm.

13/2/16 ----- sent on Dr Moore’s case for FGCM -----

14/2/16 ----- Saw G.O.C. [Major General Thompson Capper, Commanding Officer 24th Division] re Court Martial for Dr Moore – he expressed great dissatisfaction re conduct of men of 197 Coy- said he would parade them tomorrow 5.30pm and speak to them – Parade ordered and G.O.C.’s view told to OC 197 Coy. ---

15/2/16 ---- Officers, NCOs & men of 197 Coy. paraded at 5.30pm and addressed by G.O.C. 24th Divn. on the subject of regrettable crime in the Coy.

18/2/16 Trial of Dr T Moore on a charge of murder. Court opened 10am closed at 5.20pm. Aeroplane dropped 11 bombs about 8.30am to the west of our camp.

26/2/16 4.30 am. Promulgation of F.G.C.M. of Dr T Moore 97 Coy A.S.C. on charge of murder to prisoner.

5.40 am Dr T Moore shot. Buried Map Ref Sheet 28 G22 6.8.8. Promulgated to 197 Coy 5.30 am. Thus Dvr. Thomas Moore progressed within 15 days from serving as a member of the B.E.F. fighting the enemy, on behalf of his country, to being shot at dawn by members of his own Company for murder of a fellow soldier. FBL was responsible for organising the firing squad and supervising the execution and its aftermath. Moore’s body was buried at Devonshire Farm, Busseboom where it remains although he is recorded as ‘missing’ on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres8. His victim Sergeant Farrier James Pick was buried in Poperinghe New Military Cemetery grave 1.F.128. A more detailed description of the case is given by Julian Putkowski and Mark Dunning in their book Murderous Tommies7 where they address the question of Moore’s mental state at the time of the murder and the cursory investigation which was undertaken with regard to it. During the same period three other FGCMs were going on regarding drivers in the 24th Divisional Train, albeit for lesser matters, and having organised the firing party and supervised the execution of Moore at 5.40 am, the War Diary records that the Colonel promulgated – a term much used by the military concerning such matters - the results of these to 194 Coy. and 195 Coy. at 6.0 am and 6.30 am respectively. Such niceties as prolonged in depth investigations into what to the military mind at the battle front was an obvious serious criminal act did not loom large in times when death in action was a regular occurrence. What concerned senior officers was that an example should be set quickly to prevent a repetition of the offence and a breakdown of “Good Order and Military Discipline”. The 24th Divisional Train was involved in the thick of the fighting in the Ypres and Somme areas during the two years in which FBL was its commanding officer. As the war continued so did the daily grind for the Companies which made up the Train. Work involved providing wagon loads of supplies to the troops in the trenches, looking after the horses and communicating with the Remount Companies when horses were required to replace those that had died or been killed. They also advised the Field Ambulance and other services when wagons needed repair or replacement, while at all times they were being attacked, gassed or bombed by the enemy and the Flanders mud rendered their task ever more difficult. On many occasions a note was made in the diary regarding admission to hospital due to sickness of officers, including FBL, who no doubt succumbed to the appalling conditions in the trenches as did the troops they commanded. In August 1916 brief mention was made again of a “visit of H.M. King George V” to the 24th Division. At the end of September FBL went on leave to England for ten days and then on 12th December he was admitted to hospital returning to duty on Christmas Day. In the latter part of his despatch of 29th December 1916 (LG 29884 p12733) Sir Douglas Haig described the struggles of the latter half of 1916 including the Battle of the Somme and his tribute to the ASC and other support services was fulsome. “The maintenance of large armies in a great battle under modern conditions is a colossal task. Though bad weather often added very considerably to the difficulties of
transport, the troops never wanted for food, ammunition, or any of the other many and varied requirements for the supply of which these Services and Departments are responsible.” Among those he considered worthy of special mention (MID) was Lt Col F.B. Lord. (LG29890 p244).

In April 1917 it was announced in the diary that “Major (T/Lt Col) F.B. Lord promoted to Lt Col. as from 1.4.17” (LG 30065 p4605). In May he again, together with a number of his officers, was mentioned in despatches by Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig (LG 30101 p5316) in which he paid tribute to the enormous task faced by the transport services during the winter and spring offensives of 1916/17 in the presence of appalling weather conditions, a feature that was frequently mentioned in the war diary of the 24th Divisional Train. In the Birthday Honours in June 1917 FBL was awarded the D.S.O. ‘For distinguished service in the field’ (LG 30111 p5471).

On the 21st December 1917 he was admitted to hospital from the front and subsequently relinquished command of the 24th Divisional Train. On 7th January 1918 at Vraignes Lt. Col. A.G. Galloway D.S.O. assumed command. In October 1921 FBL retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel seniority being back dated to December 1915 the date when he took over command of 24th Divisional Train (LG 32629 p1918). In July 1931 having reached the age limit for liability to recall he ceased to belong to the reserve of officers (LG 33733 p4440).

He died at his home Litchford Rd., New Milton, Hampshire on the 7th April 1936, age 59, leaving a small estate to his widow. She died in Hampshire in 1967 age 87.

Sources:
1 Ancestry: Public Member Trees.
2 Epsom College Registers 1855-1954 & ‘Yellow Book’.
4 Medal roll cards and index.
5 LLT – The Long, Long Trail
6 TNA – The National Archives WO 95/2203/4
7 Murderous Tommies by Julian Putkowski & Mark Dunning: Pen & Sword Books Ltd; 2012

Charles S Gallannaugh September 2016

Lucas, Cecil John Foss

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Lucas, Charles Leslie Clement

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Lucas, Charles Leslie C

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<td>Lijsenthoeck Mil Cem, Belgium</td>
<td>XIII A9</td>
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Researcher: Liz Manterfield
Charles was born at 50 Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London on 23 Dec 1897, and baptised on 30 April 1898 in Marylebone parish church. He was the son of Richard Clement Lucas and his wife Kathleen Emma nee Pelly. Kathleen had been born in India. His parents had married 11 September 1895 in Lewisham. His father was a leading consultant surgeon at Guy’s Hospital and had led the development of renal surgery. The family’s crest was a dragon’s head holding a flaming torch in its mouth.

In the 1901 census Charles father was staying with his sister at the family home Oaklands House, West Lavington, Midhurst, Sussex. Three year old Charles, his older brother Richard Saville Clement Lucas known as Saville and his mother were living at 50 Wimpole Street. The family employed a cook, a housemaid, a nurse and a footman.  

In the 1911 census the family was living at 50 Wimpole Street, a 16 roomed house. They still employed a cook, a servant and a footman. The two boys were not at home with their parents. Charles’ mother died in 1912.

Charles had attended Edinburgh House School, Lee on Solent, Hampshire for two years before following his father and uncle to Epsom College on 15 Sept 1910. He was quietly competent academically. He spent a year in the Lower School, Fayrer House, where he came fourth out of 24 boys in his year. He then moved up to the Lower Fourth form in the Upper School, Forest House, where he came eighth out of 26 boys. The following year he was in Modern Middle II and again came eighth out of 24 boys. There is no evidence of him winning any awards or taking part in other activities.

He left in July 1913 to go to Kings School Rochester Sept 1913-11 June 1915. He came eighth out of 8 pupils in the fifth form the average age of whom was 17 (Charles was 16 in Dec 1913) but the Headmaster believed him to be educationally qualified to undergo a course of instruction for the Royal Military College. He was in the school OTC. The headmaster of Kings School, W Parker, provided him with a reference on 11 June 1915 in which he stated that Charles had a neat hand and was likely to make a fair draughtsman. “He is one of the most conscientious boys in the school and his moral character is of the highest. He is not a leader but his influence is undoubtedly good. He is a boy of a retiring disposition but has plenty of quiet determination of character, plays games vigorously and is a most industrious worker. He does not hold any prominent positions in school life. He is equal to the average of contemporaries in character, common sense, reliability and leadership.”

The headmaster also felt he would benefit educationally from a further period at school. He had been working for Responsions at Oxford and the Head was keen that he should pass this before entering RMC. He said that if commissioned, Charles would be a credit to the school. Charles had for some time been intending to prepare for Holy Orders but on the outbreak of war his patriotic feelings made him anxious to join the army. He was too slow in decision and deliberate to make a brilliant officer but he would undoubtedly take his profession seriously and put all his energies in to work of his unit.  

A medical board on 24 Aug 1915 found him fit to serve. He was 5ft 8ins in height, weighed 143 lbs, had a 34in chest that could expand to 37ins, had good teeth, normal 6/6 and colour vision. At the time of enlisting he was living with his aunt Catherine Lucas at Oaklands, Midhurst, Sussex whom he cited as his next of kin as his father had died 30 June 1915. His brother was already serving as a 2nd Lt in the Royal Field Artillery.

He was appointed a Gentleman Cadet and passed out to a commission in the 7th Northants Regiment. He went to France 14 (16?)September 1916. He was on leave in UK during May and returned to the Western front early in June.

He was wounded three weeks later in action at Messines near Ypres where he received a shell wound to his thigh, leg and arm. He was admitted to no Casualty Clearing Station on 25 June 1917. A telegram was sent to his aunt on 26 June warning her that he was dangerously ill. He died at 7.40 on 30 June 1917.  

Administering his estate was complicated because he had no surviving parents and his nearest surviving relative was his brother Richard Saville Clement Lucas who was serving in France and was under age to administer his effects. His cousin, son of father’s brother James had acted as executor for Charles’ father but was serving in France. His father James was a solicitor and had power of attorney for him, so it was agreed that James should administer Charles’s estate.

His personal effects returned from the front included 1 Belgian 5 franc note, 1 cigarette case, 1 match vesta box, 1 cheque book, for Barclays bank, 1 handkerchief, 1 pair of scissors, 1 metal shamrock, 3 photos, 1 note case, 1 tooth brush, 1 fountain pen damaged, 1 whistle and lanyard, 1 wrist watch (broken) with strap, 2 collar badges, 10 regimental buttons, letters, parts of a broken cigarette holder in a case, 1 Burbery coat.

He is buried at Lijssenhoek Popperinghe plot XIII A 9 and remembered on the memorial in West Lavington church in sussex.

He was awarded the British and Victory medals which were sent to his brother at Oaklands Park, West Lavington, Sussex.

Sources
Census 1911
Epsom Register printed
WO 339/50196

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Lucas, Thomas Charles Harvey

Thomas was born in 1897 (GRO Ref: Mar 1898 Newmarket 3b 522) the only son of Charles Lucas and his wife Annie Elizabeth nee Bond. His parents had married in 1889 (GRO Ref Sept 1889 Woodbridge 4a 1183)

In the 1901 census the family was living in High Street, Burwell, Cambridgeshire. Thomas’s father was a 48 year old physician (in earlier censuses he was recorded as a surgeon and apothecary), and his mother was 46. Three year old Thomas had two older sisters, Margaret aged 10 and Dorothy 9. The family employed a governess, cook and a housemaid, and a surgeon’s assistant was also living with the family.

In the 1911 census Thomas parents were living in an 11 roomed house in Burwell, Cambridgeshire. They recorded that they had had four children, but only three were still living. Thomas was boarding at Quy vicarage with 4 other boys of similar age. This may have been a small prep school or “crammer” prior to his entering Epsom College Lower School Holman House on 2 May. He was absent for some part of his first term at the School, but managed to finish in eighteenth position out of 25 boys in the Upper III. He progressed to Granville House in the Upper School in September and finished 14th out of 21 boys in the Upper IVth form on the next Founders’ Day. However his time in Shell Form was disappointing as he came bottom but one of the 25 boys but he attained his Lower School Certificate and achieved a First Class pass in Arithmetic. He played in the cricket XI.

Thomas joined the Suffolk Regiment on 15 Sept 1915 and served with them until 29 July 1916 but he wanted to serve in the Royal Flying Corps. He applied and a medical board at Harwich Garrison Brigade, Felixstowe on 11 Dec 1915 found him to be fit for service therein. He was 18 years old, weighed 124 lbs and was 5ft 8in tall.

Thomas received orders to report to the School of Instruction at Reading on 18 April 1916 for a course of aviation training. He was posted to RFC Sqn 20 on 30 July 1916 and served with them until his death. This was a prestigious unit with a fighter and reconnaissance role, and records survive of the type of work Thomas was doing.

On 2 Jan 1917 Thomas carried out an airborne photographic test in a FE2D (Royal Aircraft Factory Fighting Experimental 2D) aircraft, serial number A1935, with Corporal Wootten as his observer. One hour later he took part in an offensive patrol with 2/Lt. Drabble as his observer with five other FE2D’s. Visibility was poor, and they did not see any enemy aircraft. Thomas flew several more relatively uneventful missions until 25 January when he and Sub. Lt. Gilson (a RNAS officer attached to the RFC) were credited with shooting down a German Halberstadt scout (fighter) aircraft north-east of Tourcoing.

After several more patrols he set out at 1511 hours on 6 February 1917 with 2/Lt. Gibbon as his observer on a photo-reconnaissance mission over the Roulers-Courtrai area, accompanied by three other FE2D’s. Their objective would have been to report on enemy movements, defences and troops and to seek out and destroy any enemy aircraft. Their formation was attacked by six enemy scout aircraft from Germany’s Jasta 8 unit south-east of Roulers. Two of the FE2D’s were shot down approximately 2 miles east and west of Moorslede respectively. One of these was Thomas’s aircraft.

At first their names were posted as missing. Families were desperate to know what had happened to their young men and Lucas’s disappearance was an example of how families would collaborate in their efforts to establish the facts. Gibbon’s parents asked the War Office to forward a letter they had received to Mr and Mrs Lucas which confirmed that Lt Lucas had been killed when piloting an aeroplane in which their son had been an observer. They also asked the Lucas’s to share any details they obtained of the death and burial place of the boys. The Lucas’s had made a similar request. The War Office sent a list of missing officers including Thomas to Germany to be circulated in hospitals and internment camps.

His parents wrote to the War Office seeking specific details of what had happened.

A letter from the German Red Cross Committee informed the War Office that German troops in Feb 1917 had found a letter in Flanders thrown down by an English airman asking for information on British airmen: Lucas, Gibbon, Maule and Worde. The letter had been forwarded to the German War Office who asked the Red Cross to investigate.

Meanwhile a German plane dropped a message over British lines which translated: “On 6 Feb out of ...Sqn, 3 Vickers DD (260 Rolls Royce). Two machines were shot down. In one of them Lts Gibbon and Lucas were dead. We express our sympathy.” The German description of a ‘Vickers DD 250 RR’ is a misidentification of the FE2D they were actually flying.

The German Red Cross was able to confirm that C Lucas and JJ Gibbon had both been killed on 6 Feb 1917 at Moorslede. They would provide a photo of the graves in due course.

Elizabeth Manterfield
Other reports stated that Gibbon had been seen low down, in control after combat with Jasta 8. Lieutenant Traeger claimed to have shot them down.

Thomas is buried in Perth cemetery (China Wall,) Zillebeke, Belgium grave X.C.15 3 km outside Ypres. This cemetery was used for front line burials until Oct 1917. There is a family memorial to him in Burwell church and he is remembered on the Burwell War Memorial which is a series of tablets on the side of a purpose built cottage. His British War and Victory medals were sent to his father.

With thanks to Bob Smallwood for the details of RAF 20 Sqn Operations.

Sources
Bob Smallwood History of 20 Sqn
Burwell roll of honour-internet
Census 1901
CWGC
TNA file WO 339/50196
TNA Air/1/167/15/156/2 ( 20 Squadron Record Book for 1917 )
TNA Air 1/1827/204/202/14 Combat Reports ( written by crews when they returned)

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Mabey, Arthur Herbert

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Mabey, Reginald Edward Lear

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Macadam, Lt.-Col. Douglas Leslie Dehane

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MacCarthy, Alexander Bremner

Birth Year: 1873  
Entered Epsom College: 1884  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
Rank: 
House: HMM? 

Mackenzie, Melville Douglas

Birth Year: 1889  
Entered Epsom College: 1904  
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
Rank: 
House: C.M.G.  

Melville MacKenzie (1889-1972) was the son of Dr Frederick Lumsden MacKenzie, M.D., a practitioner at Huddersfield. He passed out top in the 1st M.B. examination in 1907 and was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to St Bartholomew's Hospital where he graduated M.B., B.S. in 19118 In 1916 he was released for war service as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. He was posted to Mesopotamia where he encountered cholera, plague and typhus, and was mentioned in despatches for his work in controlling these epidemics. After the war he took diplomas in public health and tropical medicine, and proceeded M.D. (Lond.) (1920). He then became assistant port health officer at Liverpool, but gave up this appointment in 1921 to join a unit in the Volga Valley as a senior medical officer with the Nansen Russian Famine Relief Administration, being primarily engaged in the control of typhus. In 1926 he joined the Ministry of Health and in 1928, he was invited to join the Health Organisation of the League of Nations and took part in advisory missions to Greece, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and many other countries to help with problems such as dengue fever, congenital syphilis, and malaria. From 1931-1933 he went as Special Commissioner of the Council of the League of Nations, to pacify and disarm native tribes— the Kru (Kroo) peoples— and fix new boundaries in Liberia. In 1936 he was appointed Acting Director of the Epidemiological Bureau of the League of Nations in Singapore, and visited Bangkok to advise on control of a cholera epidemic. Early in 1939 he returned to the Far East as special commissioner to co-ordinate the technical assistance given to China. He was at Chungking at the height of the bombing in the Sino-Japanese war and also made a hazardous journey along the Burma Road, living in primitive conditions.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, in 1940, he returned to London from Geneva and became principal medical officer in charge of the London area. Towards the end of the war he returned to international health as Chairman of the European Health Committee of UNRRA and, in 1946, was United Kingdom Delegate with Plenipotentiary Powers, to the World Health Conference in New York. At this time he was the author of Medical Relief in Europe (1944), for a series on postwar medical problems, and this proved to be the standard textbook for relief workers. He pointed out that in the aftermath of the last war more people died from preventable diseases and starvation than were killed in the war itself. Before the war there was a very effective system of notifying major epidemic disease from every country in the world, and he called for the reconstitution of this International information service. In 1947 he was appointed C.M.G. Melville MacKenzie was the chief United Kingdom delegate to the first six assemblies of the World Health Organisation and
Mackenzie, Noel Olliffe Compton

Mackenzie, Noel Olliffe Compton was born in Kensington on 22 December 1896 (GRO Ref: Dec 1896 Fulham 1a 249) the son of Walter Otway Compton Mackenzie and his wife Olliffe Augusta nee Smallwood. His parents had married in 1894 (GRO Ref: Mar 1894 Paddington 1a 91). His grandfather had been Charles Mackenzie, also known as the comic actor Henry Compton.

Noel was baptised at Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, Paddington on 6 May 1897. The family was living at 38 Queens Road, Bayswater. Rev William J Smallwood, the British Chaplain at Hanover, conducted the service.

In the 1901 census the family was living at 6 Inverness Mews, Paddington. Four year old Noel’s father was a 38 year old actor. His mother was 26 and also an actress.

Noel’s mother enrolled him to enter Propert House in Epsom College’s Upper School on 16 September 1909. He was a very able student from the start. In 1910 he came tenth out of 27 boys in the Middle Fourth form and won the Carr Divinity prize. He is recorded at the school in the 1911 census and finished in fourth position. In 1912 he passed his Lower school certificate with first class passes in English and Latin. The following year he came third out of 22 boys, passed the Oxford and Cambridge school Certificate and the London Matriculation. He left in July 1914 with the intention of continuing to study medicine having passed the first examination for his medical degree but his plans were immediately interrupted by the outbreak of war.

He attested for service in the army on 4 October 1914 at Guildford and joined the 54 Field Ambulance at Houslow as Private 39275 in the RAMC. He spent the following months in the UK.

He was struck off the strength of the RAMC from 20 Feb 1915 having received his commission to be 2nd Lieutenant in Princess Louise’s Kensington Bn. He was 5ft 8ins in height, weighed 131lbs, and had a 34in chest which could expand to 38ins. He had a pale complexion, with hazel eyes and brown hair. He gave his mother as his next of kin who was living at The Cottage, College Road, Maybury.

He was serving at Hazely Down Camp near Winchester when he reported sick with cystitis, attributed to being exposed to infection whilst on active service. He was treated at the 3 London General Hospital, Wandsworth, a major Territorial Force hospital. A month later he was still only fit for light duty for a month but by April was quite recovered.

Shortly before he left for the front he called into Cox and Co.’s office, the company responsible for shipping personal equipment and some financial matters. He wished to ensure that his affairs would be looked after by his mother and not his father who was an invalid. The exact nature of his father’s illness is unknown, but some of the other correspondence from his mother makes it clear that it would have been undesirable to entrust his father with large sums of money and that he was supported by Noel’s mother.

The 1/13 Kensingtons were to go into action in a diversionary attack on Gommecourt on 1 July 1916 with the objective of occupying German reserve troops.

The official history of the Kensington Regiment recorded that “The day dawned bright and clear with every promise of a glorious summer day as men waited tense for the opening of conflict... The attack... was held up at the outset, the assaulting soldiers being simply mown down by machine-gun fire as soon as they advanced... Gommecourt swarmed with Germans who had safely endured the bombardment in deep dugouts, none of which had been affected in the least, and a heavy machine gun fire from well-sited emplacements was soon sweeping the front.”

On page 124 of “The Somme” by Peter Hart, a report described Second Lieutenant Mackenzie as leading a group of men in a vain attempt to get a fresh supply of bombs over no man’s land.

On page 125 is a report by Major Cedric Dickens, 13th Battalion Kensingtons.

“1.10 pm. Shelling fearful. Mackenzie killed. Trench practically untenable, full of dead and wounded.”

The Kensingtons lost 16 out of 23 officers in front of Gommecourt on 1 July 1916.

He is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing on the Somme Pier and Face 9 D 9 C 13 C and 12 C.
Noel was awarded British War and Victory medals sent to father 36 Park Village East, London NW1.

Sources:
Census returns 1901, 1911
Baptismal record Christ Church Lancaster Gate
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
London Gazette 19 Feb 1915
The official history of the Kensington Regiment pub 1936
The Somme, Peter Hart

Mackenzie, Noel Olliffe Compton, s. of W. O. C. Mackenzie, actor, of Shepherd's Bush, b. 1896, L.S. and P., l. 1914, T/2nd Lt. London Regt., killed in action 1916

Mackrell, Gyles
Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: Sqdn. Ldr. R.A.F. World War 1
Rank: 
House: HMM?
Decorations: G.M., D.F.C.
Researcher: 

Mackrell, Lt.-Col Ashton
Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: Lt.-Col. I.A. (formerly Manchester Regt.)
Rank: 
House: HMM?
Decorations: 
Researcher: 

Macphail, Iain Ross
Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Rank: 
House: HMM?
Decorations: 
Researcher: 

MacRoberts, Robert Kirkpatrick
Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. The Black Watch 1916-18
Rank: 
House: HMM?
Decorations: 
Researcher: 
MacRoberts, Robert Kirkpatrick, s. of dr. W. K. MacRoberts of Wentworth, New South Wales, b. 1893, L.S. and G., XV, l. 1910, company secretary, 2nd/Lt. The Black Watch 1916-18; 177 Queen's Gate, S.W.

Major, Arthur Cundell

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Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Decorations: M.C.*

Mallam, Clifford Angus

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<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>Capt</td>
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Decorations: M.C.*

MALLAM Clifford Angus Captain 3 Bn Royal Berks attached to 5 Bn (Princess Charlotte of Wales)

Died 29/10/18 aged 28

Buried Douai Brit Cem, France

Reference: RA.G1

Angus, as he was known to his family, was born at 102 Iffley Road, Cowley, Oxford on 4 March 1890 (GRO Ref: June 1890 Headington 3a 778 ) the son of Dr George Besant Mallam and his wife Annie Isabel Kyffin nee Thomas. Annie came from Adelaide, South Australia where they married 30 July 1884 in Glenelg. His father was a member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

In 1891 George and Annie Mallam were visiting the Sandringham Hotel, Hastings. Their 3 children: Dalton aged 5 who had been born in Australia, Roy K aged 2 and Angus 1 were being looked after by a cousin, Lucy Mallam, at 102 Iffley Road, Oxford. In the 1901 census the family was living at Hall Place, Sparshot, Wantage, Berkshire. George was 57 years old and recorded as a medical man. Annie was 36. Angus had another sibling, Louie who was 9 years old. Nora Mallam, described as George’s niece, was living with them as well as two other nieces Florence and Eileen Thomas. The family employed a governess and a servant. Five year old Norman MacJust was also boarding with the family. Angus was a boarder at Cherbourg School in Malvern which was the Prep School for Malvern College.

After 19 years in medical practices in Hackney and Oxford Dr Mallam’s health had failed to the point where he was permanently incapacitated. He had to sell his practice and the family finances were precarious as they became dependant on allowances from relatives to keep them solvent. On 19 September 1901 Angus and his brother Roy both enrolled at Epsom College. Angus was awarded a Foundation Scholarship and Roy won an Entrance Scholarship. Angus started in the Lower School’s Upper III form and later proceeded to the Upper School in Granville House and was an outstanding pupil. He twice won the Harvey Prize (1907 and 1908) of 7gns. This was awarded to the Foundation Scholar whose work was best in the annual exams. He also won the Modern History Prize and English Literature Prize, given by the Earl of Rosebery KG, president of the College. He passed the London University Preliminary Science exam at school. He became a prefect.

He was equally eminent on the sports field. He played Fives, winning his colours in 1908 and 1909 and was captain in 1909. He played in the first Cricket XI 1909 where he was both a very useful medium fast bowler and batsman. On 29 May 1909 he played for Epsom College against St John’s Leatherhead, and against University College School on 26 June. He also played in the first Hockey XI 1909

He left Epsom in 1909 having won an Exhibition to Keble College, Oxford and in addition was awarded the Forest Exhibition of £50 per year for three years whilst at Oxford. A fellow Epsomian at Oxford wrote in Feb 1910 that “Mallam is looking as...”
cherubic as ever. He is a prominent member of the Keble hockey team and lately joined the Varsity OTC. He says he is doing some work.”. He had also been a corporal in the Epsom College’s OTC but did not attain his certificate A.

Angus’s father died 28 August 1910 and the family was exercised further financially. Epsom’s headmaster investigated whether it would be possible to extend the Forest Exhibition to help Angus complete his studies at Oxford, but the terms only allowed funding for three years. He was also unable to use the Da Silva exhibition to help him. Somehow Angus managed to complete his degree and attained a 2nd Class honours in Classical Moderation.

In the 1911 census his widowed mother and his sister Louie Phyllis were still living at Hall Place.

On the outbreak of war Angus was working in a London mission to prepare for taking holy orders. He volunteered for active service at Westminster and joined the University and Public Schools Brigade on 14 September 1914. Initially he was Private 5283 in 20 Bn Royal Fusiliers (3 Public Schools). On 9 May 1915 he was stationed at Woodcote Park Epsom until he was fit to take up his commission.

He was discharged from the Royal Fusiliers to a commission on 25 May 1915 as 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Berkshire Regiment. He had served at home from 15 Sept 1914-11 May 1915 (253 days).

He was 5ft 10ins tall, weighed 154 lbs, 34½ins chest which expanded to 37ins. He had good physical development. He had been vaccinated in 1902 and had S vaccination marks. His vision was 6/12 in the right eye 6/6 in his left. He had no congenital peculiarities or previous diseases. He had been given anti typhoid vaccination on 20 Feb 1915 and another inoculation on 2 Mar. He had a fresh complexion, blue eyes, brown hair and was church of England.

He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1916. He served with the BEF from Mar 1916 and was mentioned in Despatches April 1917 by General Haig. He was wounded on 14 April but was able to return to duty on 22.

In 1917 he won the MC and Bar whilst serving as Lieut (Temp Captain) Special Reserve attached to 5 Bn. His citation in the London Gazette 1 Jan 1918 reads:

“For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an advance when the situation was obscure. A gap was reported and existed in our lines he went out under heavy shell fire to reconnoitre and brought back valuable information which enable the battalion to move forward and fill the gap”.

He was wounded on 29 (some sources say 28) October at Hauterive north-west of Valenciennes, France, shot in his left arm, fractured humerus and contusion of his back. He was taken to 42 Casualty Clearance Station and the OC sent a telegram to his family informing them that he was dangerously ill, followed by the news that he had died. His CO wrote: “He was the most efficient adjutant I ever had and as a friend invaluable.”

He was buried in Douai British Cemetery, Cuincy.

Probate administration with a will was granted on 3 May 1919 to Louie Phyllis Mallam, spinster. He left £447 14s 2d. He was unmarried.

Sources
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsom College Yellow book, register m/s
Epsom College Minutes
Epsomian 1908
Free BMD
London Gazette Apr 1917
Probate
Soldiers Died
TNA WO 339/59921 Long no. 133328
Wisden obituaries

Mallam, Clifford Angus, M.C. and bar, brother of the above, b. 1890, G., prefect XI, h. XI, l. 1909, exhr. of Keble Coll., Oxon, M.A., Lieut. (S.R.), A/Capt. Royal Berks Regt., killed in action 1918

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Angus Mallam's Oxford certificate.

Angus Mallam

Angus at Keble
Mallam, Col. Roy Kyffin

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<tr>
<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
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Manders, Horace Craigie

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<td>R. Berks and Hants Rgt 1914-18. Eventually Lt.-Col, ADC Viceroy</td>
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Researcher: Horace Craigie Manders C. I. E., V. D.

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Horace Craigie Manders (HCM) was born in the small village of York Town near Frimley in Surrey on 5 December 1882 (EC Manuscript Register 1885-1933). His father, also Horace, was the second son of Major Thomas Manders, 6th Dragoon Guards.

Dr. Horace Manders was educated at Marlborough and St Mary’s Hospital qualifying as a doctor in 1875 and becoming a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1878. In 1900-01 he served in the Imperial Yeomanry in South Africa and was mentioned in despatches later becoming a lieutenant colonel in the 4th Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment receiving the Volunteer Decoration.

HCM served from 1900 until September 1902. The Imperial Yeomanry was disbanded in 1908. By late 1901 most of the original recruits left the Yeomanry and either returned to England or went elsewhere. HCM went on to Assam where he worked as a tea planter with the Assam Frontier Tea Company at Talup near Disrugarh. (Epsom College 1855-1905 Register). From February 1903 until November 1914 he served as a volunteer in the Assam Valley Light Horse (WO...
On the 26 January 1915 (LG Feb 1915 p 13227) he was commissioned as a T/Lieutenant in the 9th Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment and soon transferred from the Royal Berks to the 2nd Hampshire Regiment (LG 05.11.1915 p1099). The 2nd Battalion of the Hampshire’s had been brought back to England from India in December 2014 and in due course became part of the 88th Brigade of the 29th Division and moved to Warwick. On the 29th March 1915 they sailed from Avonmouth for Gallipoli via Egypt landing at Cape Helles on 25 April 1915.

The Gallipoli or Dardanelles campaign as it was also known has long been regarded as one of the great military disasters of the war. When the war in Flanders had become bogged down into a battle of attrition, the military leaders in England became attracted to the concept of attacking ‘the soft under belly’ of the central European powers by sailing through the narrow Dardanelles channel to take Constantinople and open up access to the Black Sea. Both sides of the Straits were heavily fortified by Turkish forts, Turkey at that time was supporting Germany, and attempts by the Royal Navy and the French Navy to storm their way through soon met with disaster. Inadequate attempts to clear mines from the narrows beforehand combined with heavy bombardment from the forts led to the loss of a number of capital ships with huge loss of life. Matters were not improved by bitter wrangling in London between Churchill as First Lord of the Admiralty and his First Sea Lord, Admiral Lord Fisher, over the resources required. Fisher was by now at the end of his career and eventually resigned in the middle of the conflict, the position perhaps being succinctly summarised by Churchill in the phrase “Fisher went mad”.

Such disagreements at home did not help matters on the ground. It had become clear that a naval attempt on its own would not succeed without a land offensive to silence the Turkish forts. A plan was drawn up to invade the inhospitable coast of the Gallipoli peninsula and it was there at the aptly named Cape Helles that Lieutenant Horace Craigie Manders with the 2nd Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment found themselves on 25th April. The situation which confronted the soldiers was described in detail by the General Commanding the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, General Sir Ian Hamilton, an old friend of Churchill from their time in South Africa together. His report of the 20th May 2015 to the Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener, details the horror of the landings particularly that at Cape Helles and parts of his long report, the first of four, which refers in detail to the Hampshire Regiment are quoted below.

“The landing on V beach was planned to take place on the following lines: - As soon as the enemy’s defences had been heavily bombarded by the fleet, three companies of the Dublin Fusiliers were to be towed ashore. They were to be closely followed by the collier " River Clyde" (Commander Unwin, R.N.), carrying between decks the balance of the Dublin Fusiliers, the Munster Fusiliers, half a battalion of the Hampshire Regiment, the West Riding Field Company, and other details. The "River Clyde" had been specially prepared for the rapid disembarkation of her complement, and large openings for the exit of the troops had been cut in her sides, giving on to a wide gang-plank by which the men could pass rapidly into lighters which she had in tow. As soon as the first tows had reached land the "River Clyde" was to be run straight ashore. Her lighters were to be placed in position to form a gangway between the ship and the beach, and by this means it was hoped that 2,000 men could be thrown ashore with the utmost rapidity. Further, to assist in covering the landing, a battery of machine guns, protected by sandbags, had been mounted in her bows. The remainder of the covering force detailed for this beach was then to follow in tows from the attendant battleships. -----------------. "

“As often happens in war, the actual course of events did not quite correspond with the intentions of the Commander. The " River Clyde" came into position off Sedd-el-Bahr in advance of the tows, and, just as the latter reached the shore, Commander Unwin beached his ship also. Whilst the boats and the collier were approaching the landing place the Turks made no sign. Up to the very last moment it appeared as if the landing was to be unopposed. But the moment the first boat touched bottom the storm broke a tornado of fire swept over the beach, the incoming boats, and the collier. The Dublin Fusiliers and the naval boats’ crews suffered exceedingly heavy losses while still in the boats. Those who succeeded in landing and in crossing the strip of sand managed to gain some cover when they reached the low escarpment on the further side. None of the boats, however, were able to get off again, and they and their crews were destroyed upon the beach. Now came the moment for the " River Clyde" to pour forth her living freight; but grievous delay was caused here by the difficulty of placing the lighters in position between the ship and the shore. A strong current hindered the work and the enemy’s fire was so intense that almost every man engaged upon it was immediately shot. -----------------. For a space the attempt to land was discontinued. When it was resumed the lighters again drifted into deep water, with Brigadier-General Napier, Captain Costeker, his Brigade Major, and a number of men of the Hampshire Regiment on board. There was nothing for them all but to lie down on the lighters, and it was here that General Napier and Captain Costeker were killed. At this time, between 10 and 11 a.m., about 1,000 men had left the collier, and of these nearly half had been killed or wounded before they could reach the little cover afforded by the steep, sandy bank at the top of the beach. Further attempts to disembark were now given up. -----------------. Twenty-four hours after the disembarkation began there were ashore on V beach the survivors of the Dublin and Munster Fusiliers and of two companies of the Hampshire Regiment. The Brigadier and his Brigade-Major had been killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Carrington Smith, commanding the Hampshire Regiment, had been killed and the Adjutant had been wounded. The Adjutant of the Munster Fusiliers was wounded, and the great majority of the senior officers were either wounded or killed. The remnant of the landing-party still crouched on the beach beneath the shelter of the sandy escarpment which had saved so many lives.”

Later in his report General Hamilton paid tribute to those who had taken part in the landing, so many of whom had lost their lives. “So strong, in fact, were the defences of W beach that the Turks may well have considered them impregnable, and it is my firm conviction that no finer feat of arms has ever been achieved by the British soldier or any other soldier than the storming of these trenches from open boats on the morning of 25th April.”

During the course of the above action or during the first battle for the village of Krithia from the 28th April to the 1st May in which the 88th Brigade participated, to which the 2nd Hampshire Regt. Belonged, HCM injured his back and was placed on light duties. What exactly this meant in the circumstances in which he found himself is unclear but he returned to full duty on 2.6.1915 (WO 339/18014). The battle for Krithia was a complete failure and the 29th Division already devastated by the earlier battles for Helles suffered 2000 casualties.
In due course for his part in these battles from which by some miracle he survived Lieutenant HC Manders received a Mention in Despatches (LG 05.11.1915 p 10998).

By late May and on into July the conflict stagnated into a state of attrition and trench warfare similar to that on the Western Front in Flanders. On the 6th of August the 29th Division was again employed to carry out an assault on the Sari Bair range of hills. On the opening day of this attack HCM was seriously wounded when he was severely concussed by a shell explosion. He was invalided home by hospital ship via Malta and was then admitted to Mrs Thal’s Hospital, a private hospital at 17 Upper Grosvenor St. London. His recovery was complicated by a bout of malaria a condition he had suffered from since his time in Assam before the war. He was given two months sick leave this being extended until he eventually reported back for duty to the Royal Berkshires on 18 Dec 1915.

On his return to duty the Colonel of the 37th Trg. Battalion which he had joined, immediately recommended promotion to Captain. He suffered with another bout of malaria in January 1916 and was admitted to a military hospital in Chatham to recover. He was fit for service again by 22nd February 1916. There was a plan by the War Office to send him abroad again but the Lt Colonel commanding the 9th Royal Berks, his original regiment, made a strong plea to the authorities “for Captain HC Manders to remain as a Company Commander due to his very good training work based on his experience in the Dardanelles”. The request seems to have been granted.

In September 1916 HCM applied for a commission in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and in May 1917 he was admitted to the cavalry branch of the Reserve (LG June 1919 p 7953). He was eventually released from service in the British Army w.e.f. 20 October 1919 with the rank of major (Medal Roll Index).

In 1923 now aged 40 he left his house in London and together with his young wife Muriel age 27 whom he had married in 1915 travelled to Assam via South Africa to return to his work as a tea planter with the Assam Frontier Tea Co. Ltd. He re-joined the Assam Valley Light Horse, in due course becoming its Colonel Commandant. The headquarters of The Assam Valley Light Horse was at Dibrugarh on the Brahmaputrah river in north east India. It was formed in 1900 when an amalgamation of a number of volunteer forces which had been set up after the Indian Mutiny in 1857 took place and its purpose was to protect local populations and installation such as the tea estates. It was disbanded in 1947.

In 1927 he was engaged as ADC to the 1st Earl of Halifax, Governor General of India from 1926 until 1931. In 1931 he was appointed Companion of the Indian Empire (LG 1 Jan 1931 p 7). He already held the Volunteer Decoration. Sadly his wife died in 1934 in Assam leaving him a widower without children. He appears to have remained in India throughout WW2 returning to London in 1947 where he resided at 11 Queen’s Gate Place SW7. He returned on at least two occasions in the next few years to South Africa before returning to take up residence again at 19 Ranelagh Avenue Barnes. In his final years he moved into the White House Hotel in Earls Court Square SWS. He died in St Stephen’s Hospital Chelsea on Armistice Day 11 November 1963 age 80.

Sources:
- Ancestry
- Yellow book
- Lives of the Fellows Royal College of Surgeons, England
- TNA WO 339/18014
- London Gazette (LG)
- First Report General Sir Ian Hamilton to Secretary of State for War 20 May 1915.
- EC 1855 – 1905 Manuscript Register.
- SCG January 2015
- Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1896 House: HMM?
- Regiment: R. Berks and Hants Rgt 1914-18. Eventually Lt.-Col, ADC Viceroy Rank Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Manders, Horace Craigie, C.I.E., V.D., s. of Horace Manders, F.R.C.S., of Camberley, b. 1882, F., l. 1899, tea planter, served in S.A. War with I.Y., and in R. Berks Regt. and Hants Regt. 1914-19, Lt.-Col. Assam Valley Light Horse, hon. A.D.C. to Viceroy 1927, brother of V. E. C. M. (1898); 18 Hanover Square
Manders, Vere Edward Carter

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Regiment: T/Lt. 1914-17

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Vere Edward Carter Manders
1886 – 1981

Vere Edward Carter Manders (VM) was born in York Town, Frimley, Surrey on 21 January 1886 (GRO 1886 2a 113) a son of Horace Manders a surgeon and his wife Louisa formerly Goode. He was a younger brother of Horace Craigie Manders in a family of four boys and two girls one of whom died in childhood. He entered Epsom College in 1898 in the Lower School when he was 12 with Mr Maddock as his Housemaster (EC Manuscript Register 1885-1935) eventually moving to Forest House. He seems to have done quite well at school on the Classical side and in 1899 he won the Carr Divinity Prize. The early printed register records him as leaving in 1900 which is incorrect. The manuscript and 1855 -1954 editions have his leaving date as 1903 when he would have been 17.

Shortly after leaving Epsom he joined the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment – Duke of Connaught’s Own (London Gaz. 21.05.1904 Issue 27678 p 3269), a Territorial Regt. He was promoted to Lieutenant two years later (London Gaz. 24.01.1906 Issue 27877 p 549). It is not clear how long he served in the reserve but although the EC Register (1855 -1954) records service from 1914 – 1917 this seems to be unlikely for reasons outlined below.

In the 1911 census he is noted to be living with his parents at 27 Westmorland Rd., Barnes, working as a private tutor. On 3 October 1912 he sailed on the ‘Canadian’ from Liverpool to New York. He returned to England on the ‘Celtic’ on 6 June 1913 giving his permanent address on the ship’s manifest as the USA. Shortly after returning he married Jennie Constance Tolkien at Richmond in London. (GRO 1913 3rd qtr 2a 1136) and in September that year he and his bride travelled to Boston on the ‘Winifredian’. They visited England again in 1914 returning to Boston in September.

On the 28 March 1915 Jennie Manders, travelling alone, crossed the Atlantic on the ‘Adriatic’ possibly to attend the wedding of her future brother-in-law, Horace Craigie Manders although it is strange that she was not accompanied by her husband, his brother. She stayed with her own brother in Barnes and shortly after the event, on 14 June she left for New York on the ‘St Paul’. The journey must have been a nerve racking one as only one month before the ‘Lusitania’ had been torpedoed off the Old Head of Kinsale as she returned to Liverpool from New York, with great loss of life.

In September 1918 VM was required by the USA authorities to register with the Local Board of the State of Maine. He gave his profession as that of teacher at Newcastle School, Mt Kisco Westchester New York and was described as being tall, of medium build with brown eyes and hair (WWI Draft Registration Card
He was still then a British Citizen but in 1922 at a court in Massachusetts he became a naturalised American.

After the war in 1920 VM travelled alone to Southampton to visit England for the first time since cessation of hostilities. Over the next twenty years he and his wife travelled back and forth across the Atlantic many times until war once again intervened. Eventually the couple retired to Bermuda where they lived for some years. They returned for a visit in 1959 giving Bermuda as their permanent residence before finally returning to England at first to live in Barnes, probably with relatives, and finally Hove in East Sussex.

Jennie died there in 1977 age 94 and VM in 1981 age 95 (GRO June 1981 Hove vol. 18 p 1129). There were no children of the marriage.

Sources:
Epsom College Register – Manuscript 1885 to 1933
Yellow Book
Ancestry
GRO
London Gazette
(SCG Jan 2015)
MARSHALL Bernard Gouldsmith 2nd Lieut., 3rd Bn Northants Regt.
Died 5 Apr 1916 aged 19

Bernard was born in Streatham on 4 August 1896 (GRO ref: Jul 1896 Wandsworth 1d 793) the son of Edwyn Edmond Marshall and his wife Mary nee Gouldsmith. The couple had married on 6 May 1879 in Holy Trinity church in Richmond, Surrey (GRO Ref: June 1879 Richmond 2a 509). Bernard and his older brother Harold were baptised by Herbert Gouldsmith of Calcutta at Immanuel Church Streatham on 21 Oct 1896. The family lived at Streatham Common and their father worked as a publisher. In the 1881 census Edwyn and Mary were living at 4 Park Terrace, Twickenham. Edwyn was a 28 year old book seller and publisher. Mary was 24. They employed one servant but had no children at the time.

By the 1891 census Edwyn and Mary had moved to Cranbrook, High Road, Streatham Common and had started their family. Edwyn, 38, was publishing books. Mary was 34. They had three sons Claud Herbert who was 7, Harold aged 4 and Reginald who was 6 months old. Edwyn’s brother, 39 year old Arthur Herbert Marshall, who was also a book publisher, was living with them. They employed a nurse, a cook and a housemaid.

In 1901 the family was living at Cranbrook, Streatham. Edwyn was a 48 year old publisher and Mary was 44. Claude (sic) was a 17 year old medical student, Norman was 14, Reginald 10, sister Mary ( Ninnie) was 8, Harold was 6 and Bernard 4. The family employed a nurse, a cook, a parlour maid and a housemaid.

By 1911 the family had moved to the 14 roomed house The Elms, Burgh Hill, Surrey. Edwyn was 58 and Mary 54. The couple had been married 31 years. They had 8 children but only 6 had survived. Norman, 24 was a theology student, Reginald, 20, was a publishers’ clerk, as was 16 year old Harold. Bernard aged 14 was a student. His sister Mary was 18. The family employed a cook, nurse and maid.

Bernard’s father of The Elms, Burgh Heath, Surrey registered him to start at Epsom College on 3 May 1909 as a day boy or “Home Boarder”. His brother Harold had started the previous year. Bernard proved himself to be an able scholar coming top of boys in the first exam for his medical degree in 1913. He also became a sub-prefect and played in the Hockey XI, and in the 2nd Cricket XI. He served in the College OTC for 3 ½ years, although he was discharged on leaving school. He was assessed as efficient 1913-14 but did not have certificate A.

He left in July 1913 to go to Guy’s Hospital, London on 1 Oct 1913 where he attained a London MB.

When war broke out he enlisted Initially as a private in 16 Bn Middlesex Regt on 26 September 1914 at St James, London . He expressed a preference to serve in the infantry or the army special reserve, particularly in the 2nd Battalion “Trench Cadets of the OTC to be made 2nd Lt on probation as from 20 Apr 1915. He passed his medical and was recorded as 5ft 7ins tall, weighed 137lbs, had a 34in chest expanding to 35½ins. He had a dark complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. He obtained a commission as a 2nd Lieut in 1st Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment and went to France on 8 Feb 1916.

He was initially reported wounded and missing but then his death was confirmed, killed at Loos on 5 April 1916. He was buried in St Patrick’s cemetery, Loos Grave III H 11. This cemetery was begun by the British and French during the battle of Loos and contains 583 Commonwealth graves largely the 16th (Irish) Division. His effects included a pocket flask, a pocket knife and chain, 1 cap badge, 2 collar boxes, 1 gold ID disc and chain, 1 match box case, 1 motor driver’s licence, 1 battalion “Trench Standing Orders”, 1 AB 153, notebook, 1 steel mirror, 1 cigarette case, 1 letter, 1 registered letter containing birth certificates, 1 note case containing 2 photos, 1 pair of pocket scissors.

Bernard’s British and Victory medals were sent to his father at 42 Lancaster Gate, London presumably his business address because CWGC recorded his parents’ address as Leith House, Cunyngham Hill Road, St Albans.

Sources:
Baptismal register Streatham
Census 1881,1891,1901,1911
Free BMD
London Gazette supplement 19 Apr 1915
London University Roll of F’allen
Kings College Archives
Probate-checked but not found
Times and newspaper-checked, no entries found.
TNA file WO 339/58139

Elizabeth Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Marshall, Harold

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Capt. Lancs Fus. 1914-18
House: HMM?

Marshall, Walter Freer

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: A.B., R.N.V.R. 1914-18
House: HMM?

Martin, Col. Thomas Alexander

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Col. Essex Regt.
House: HMM?

Martin, Lionel Arthur

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. Drowned 1918
House: C

Decorations:
- M.B.E.
- T/Capt. Lancs Fus. 1914-18
- A.B., R.N.V.R. 1914-18
- Col. Essex Regt.
- T/Surg. R.N. Drowned 1918

Researcher:

Marshall, Walter Freer, s. of Walter Marshall, tea buyer, of Epsom, b. 1892, D.B., prefect, Xi, h. Xi, l. 1910, woollen manufacturer's agent, A.B., R.N.V.R. 1914-18, father of J. F. M. (1936) and M. H. M. (1940); 21 Gableson Avenue, Brighton


Martin, Lionel Arthur

Decorations:
- M.B.E.
- T/Capt. Lancs Fus. 1914-18
- A.B., R.N.V.R. 1914-18
- Col. Essex Regt.
- T/Surg. R.N. Drowned 1918

Researcher:
Lionel was born on 26 May 1887 in Weston-super-Mare, (GRO Ref: Jun 1887 Axbridge Sc 554) the son of Edward Fuller Martin and Florence Amey nee Tucker of 7 Royal Terrace, Weston-super-Mare. His parents had married in 1882 (GRO Ref: Sept 1882 Bath Sc 892.)

In the 1891 census the family was living in Victoria House, Weston-super-Mare. Lionel’s father was a 34 year old general medical practitioner. His mother was 33 and his maternal aunt, Rosa Tucker aged 29, was staying with the family. Lionel had two older brothers, 7 year old Edward Kenneth and five year old Philip.

Lionel was educated initially at St Peter’s School Weston-super-Mare. In the 1901 census he was boarding at Wells House School for young gentlemen in Great Malvern, Worcestershire. He then entered Epsom College’s Upper School, Carr House on 1 May 1902. On Founders Day 1902 he was ranked 18th out of 22 boys in the Middle Fourth form but attained his Lower School Certificate. The following year he came 21st out of 22 boys in Shell form, and left at Xmas. He was a member of the OTC. He studied medicine at University College Hospital (UCH) and qualified in 1912 attaining his MRCS and LRCP and was about to take the final MB. He was working at UCH as House Physician when war broke out.

Lionel volunteered for active service on the outbreak of war and served initially on HMS Vindictive as a Temporary Surgeon from 6 August 1914. He transferred to HMS China in Aug 1916.

There is considerable confusion over the date and circumstances of Lionel’s death. Most sources record it as 10 Aug 1918 and because this is the date that HMS China hit a mine the assumption has been that this was how he lost his life. However the details on his memorial discovered in Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery, Hoy, Orkney states that he and three shipmates were accidentally killed whilst boating in northern waters on 3 Aug 1918. The shipmates include a nurse and the ship’s dentist. An eye witness recorded that they had waved to the medical party as their boat passed and almost immediately it exploded probably having hit a mine in the Switha minefield.

Lionel is remembered on the Chatham Naval memorial panel 28.

The Senior Medical Officer on HMHS China wrote: “Your son was one of my most valued officers, and was very popular on board. He had done splendid work, and I had found his value as an organizer in working the Sick Bay Staff, and looking after the general administration of the hospital. He was a great sportsman, and absolutely single-minded in all his ways.” The ship’s Chaplain wrote: "He was so successful in all he put his hand to here, and had a great deal to do with the working of the naval side of the ship, acting as he was as First Lieutenant to the Principal Medical Officer. The splendid success he has had in the X-ray department has made us the envy of other hospital ships, and it is all due to his untiring efforts."

Probate £817 17s 9d 1 Feb 1919 was granted to his father. Lionel’s address at the time was 7 Royal Terrace Weston-super-Mare.

Sources
Census 1891,1901,1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsom college Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Eye Witness (Sinclair) account on internet
Navy Lists
Probate Records
Times

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


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Martland, Edward Norman Platt

<table>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Hon. Col. R.A.M.C.</td>
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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

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Elizabeth Manterfield

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Mason, Alfred

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1890
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations: O.B.E., M.C.

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Mason, Alfred, O.B.E., M.C., s. of dr. T. E. Mason of Deal, b. 1877, F., l. 1896, Middx Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 1921, a benefactor to the College

Master, Alfred

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: Maj. (G.S.O. II) 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations:

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

tMaster, Alfred, C.I.E., s. of dr. G. R. Master of Sheringham, b. 1883, G., prefect, Brande E., Propert, and Martin Prs., l. 1901, schol. of B.N.C., Oxon, M.A., I.C.S., Maj. (G.S.O. II) 1914-18; Woodchurch, Burleigh Road, Ascot

Masters, Edgar Alan

Birth Year: 1901
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.S.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations:

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Masters, Edgar Alan, s. of dr. J. A. Masters of Half Moon Street, W., b. 1888, P., l. 1906, occupation unknown, Capt. R.A.S.C. (T.A.) 1914-18, said to have d. 1922

May, Albert John

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations:

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Maybury, Aurelius Victor

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1892
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Decorations:

Researcher:
**Researcher:**


**Maybury, Bernard Constable**

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**Researcher:**


**Mayo, Herbert Reginald**

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**Researcher:**


**Mayo, Thomas Alfred**

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**Researcher:**


**McCowen, Surg. Capt. Gerald Roche**

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**Researcher:**


**McCracken, Kenneth Milne**

**Researcher:**

McDougall, Capt. Dugald Mitchell

McGlashan, Alan Fleming


-- Celebrated Psychiatrist and Eclectic Jungian Psychoanalyst.

“He entered the Royal Flying Corps at a tender age during the First World War, flying many perilous missions, including two aerial encounters with the “Red Baron,” the German ace Baron von Richthofen.”

occasions. In 1984, he edited an abridged version of Jung’s correspondence with Sigmund Freud. Alan McGlashan was a serious philosopher and he exchanged ideas and friendships with some of the leading thinkers of the day, among them Arthur Koestler and J. B. Priestley. His close friends included the Afrikaner writer and explorer Sir Laurens Van der Post. The phenomenon of time and paradox always challenged him. He believed in delight as a key to living. “Delight is a mystery,” he wrote, “and the mystery is this; to plunge boldly into brilliance and immediacy of living, at the same time as utterly surrendering to that which lies beyond space and time; to see life translucently.” In 1966 McGlashan published his best-known book The Savage and Beautiful Country: the secret life of the mind. In it he gives his own speculative philosophy of life, beautifully crafted. In the foreword he writes: “The purpose of the book is to indicate a new direction of perception: an almost perceptive inner change – a willed suspension of conventional judgements, a poised still awareness, a stillness in which long-smothered voices that speak the language of the soul can be heard again.” Marshall McLuhan described the book as one of the most prophetic works of the decade. Alan McGlashan was a member of the psychiatric staff at St George’s Hospital, the Maudsley and the West End Hospital. His large private practice was known for drawing a wide range of clientele from the rich and famous to the very ordinary, all of them facing life’s vicissitudes with varying degrees of success, among them H. R. H The Prince of Wales and, as she would become, Diana, Princess of Wales. In his spare time he was an avid glider pilot (holding certificate number 28, issued in 1930) and a hot-air balloonist. He was still playing tennis when well into his eighties, and was passionate about mythology, delivering a number of BBC broadcasts on the subject of mythology and psychiatry. Approaching his 99th birthday, McGlashan was still seeing patients one week before his death. This permitted him the luxury, he felt, of having only a small number, but this, he delightedly commented, had raised the level of his work. In his obituary it was written: “He took meticulous care in preparing himself for every analytic session – like a sacred ritual – so as to be open, receptive and alert for whatever might arise. This struck one as being not unlike the purification rites that were practised in the ancient Greek temples of healing at Epidauros: before the possibility of healing could even be considered, one had first to prepare oneself totally to receive it: no shortcuts, no preconceptions.”

Meade, William Charles Abbott

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Meadows, Arthur Hamilton

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Meadows, Col. Sydney Manvers Woolner

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Meadows, Col. Sydney Manvers Woolner, s. of Col. R. A. M. C., Maj. R. A. M. C., d. 1952; 4 Springfield Road, Swanage

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh
Col. Sydney Manvers Woolner Meadows D.S.O., R.A.M.C. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
1876-1957

Sydney M.W. Meadows (SM) was born in Otley, Suffolk on 22 July 1876 (GRO Woodbridge 4a 677) the eldest child of Dr George Frederick Walford Meadows (1841-1912) and his wife Sarah Ann Woolner (1845-1917). The Meadows family had lived in Writesham Hall, Suffolk, where Dr George Meadows was born, since the time of Edward W2 and both SM's father and grandfather practiced medicine in the area.

There were four children of the marriage Sydney being the firstborn. His two brothers, Philip Manvers Pierrepont Woolner M. (1878-unknown) and Frederick Evelyn Woolner M. (1879-1918) both went to Epsom College. A sister Constance Charlotte Anne M. was born in 1881. Philip became a schoolmaster and went to South Africa with his wife in 1921. Frederick followed his father into medical practice in Otley but died in 1918 at Ipswich age 39.

(SM) entered the College in 1888 in Propert House. He was to lead a distinguished career at school starting the Lower School in Form 2. At the end of his second year he was 4th in a form of 26 and in 1891 in the Upper 1V he won the form prize in the Lent term. He passed the Cambridge local examination in December 1891 moving into the lower Vth and then the matric form being made a sub-prefect in 1894. In his last year 1894-95 he moved up to the 6th form where he passed the Physical Science exam, later known as 1st MB. He became a school prefect, played in the Rugby XV, the Cricket X1 and was captain of the hockey X1. He also played in the Fives team and was Editor of The Epsomian. Making his mark he left the College in 1895 and went up to the Middlesex Hospital in London to read medicine.

In 1902 he joined the army as a probationary lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps (LG 27470 p5684). He passed the RAMC entrance examination in 1903 (BMJ) and was granted the rank of lieutenant.

In June 1903 he married in Croydon, Blanche Sexton (1879-1967) who also came from a medical background, her father being Staff Surgeon William Sexton R.N. Their only son, later Major Gerald E.M. Meadows (1906-1988), was born in Mian Mir Punjab (1911 Census).

In March 1906 whilst serving in India with the Bengal Lancers (Ancestry) SM was promoted to Captain (LG 27913 p3361). In 1907 he was in Rawalpindi4 and in 1908 as a Captain at the Station Hospital Mian Mir in India he published an interesting paper in the Journal of the RAMC3 describing a case of enteric fever which resulted in recovery of the patient following surgery, an unusual outcome in those days. It provides insight into the practice of surgery in difficult circumstances with none of the facilities available to the modern surgeon today.

He was promoted to Major in June 1914 (LG 28836 p4382) and landed in France with the B.E.F. at the very beginning of hostilities on 14th August 1914. In due course he was awarded the 1914 Star5 thus joining the band of those who later became known as the “Old Contemptibles”. In November 1915 and now Commanding Officer of No.2 Stationary Hospital at Abbeville he became a T/Lt Colonel (LG 29783 p9867). In December that year (LG 29422 p64) he was mentioned in despatches (MID) by Field Marshall Sir John French following his despatch of 15th October 1915 to the War Office in which he described the final offensive on the Ypres salient which was carried out between June and October 1915 with the objective of gaining the position and trenches at Hooge (LG 29347 p10753). He remained in command at Abbeville and in January 1917 was again MID this time by Sir Douglas Haig (LG 29890 p248) following the General’s despatch of the 29th December in which he described the campaigns of the preceding summer and autumn the most notable feature of which was the Battle of the Somme.

“The work of the Medical Services behind the front has been no less arduous. The untiring professional zeal and marked ability of the surgical specialists and consulting surgeons, combined with the skill and devotion of the medical and nursing staffs, both at the Casualty Clearing Stations in the Field and the Stationary and General Hospitals at the Base, have been beyond praise.” (LG 29884 p12733). In the New Year Honours list in January 1918 SM was awarded the D.S.O. (LG 30450 p24) for his service. He was apparently MID on a third occasion but no record of this has been found.

In 1918 the Imperial War Museum commissioned Mary Olive Edis to take photographs of women’s war work in Europe. Olive Edis was the first women war photographer and much of her work is held at the Cromer Museum in Norfolk as well as the Imperial War Museum. I am very grateful to Elizabeth Elmore, project assistant of Cromer Museum, for permission to publish the photograph of SM and his colleague and for the short extract from the diary of Olive Edis below. In 1919 during her tour of the battlefields, she had visited No 2 Stationary Hospital at Abbeville as described in her journal at the time:-

“As I needed by this time to change some plates, he took me in an old and very historic ambulance, popularly known as “the bus” up to the No: 2 Hospital. I found a rather simple and primitive X ray room, and was glad to have use of the dark room to change ten plates, for I was having a big day. Col. Meadows, the C.O. came to see me, a very good looking man, just turning grey. After four years out at the war – three in Abbeville – he had just been ordered to Gibraltar for five years, which seemed rather rough luck. I took a quick snap of him and Major Galloway on “the bus” and hurried back to join our car.”
SM relinquished his command of No. 2 Stationary Hospital in March 1919 (LG 31344 p6189) and reverted to the rank of Major, for a while serving as Acting A.D.M.S. in the Abbeville and Amiens area and as Assistant Inspector of Drafts and Sanitary Officer. He then went to Gibraltar where he was in charge of the Garrison Dispensary and the Military Families Hospital. In November 1924 he was promoted to the substantive rank of Lt/Colonel (LG 33000 p8978) and it appears that he returned to India around this time as he served as A.D.M.S. there. In November 1928 he had become full Colonel and at that time was appointed Commander of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem (EG 14664 p736). He was an Honorary Life Member of the St John’s Ambulance Association. The Gazette records that he vacated his post in India in July 1933 (LG 33984 p6430) when he retired from the R.A.M.C. age 57 having reached the age limit for military service (LG 33962 p4886).

In retirement he returned to his birthplace in Suffolk living at Falkland House, Long Melford, Sudbury and in 1943 he became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He died on 5th November 1957 at the age of 81 in St Leonard’s Hospital, Sudbury (probate record). His wife Blanche died in 1967. Both the Colonel and his wife were apparently benefactors of the church and a memorial plaque is present in St Mary’s church, Witnesham, Suffolk commemorating them.

Sources:
Ancestry
Epsom College Register 1855 -1905 & 1855-1954
EC Yellow Books
British Medical Journal. (BMJ) 22.02.1903 p 525.
LG/EG. London/Edinburgh Gazette
2 Parish records
4 Forces War Records.
5 Medal Roll Index (Ancestry)
6 Army List 1938-41
Cromer Museum. Photograph; with kind permission of the Curator.
(http://www.norfolkmuseumcollections.org/collections/objects/object-1640891308.html)

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Cromer Museum

Major Galloway and Colonel Meadows with “the bus”, Abbeville

Meadows, Lt.-Col. Charles Alfred Gordon Pierrepont

Decoration: 

Birth Year: 1891

Entered Epsom College: 1891

Regiment: Lt.-Col. I.A.

House: 

HMM?: 

Rank: 

Researcher:

Meredith, Eric Dunfee

Birth Year: 1896  Entered Epsom College: 1906  House: DB  Rank: 2Lt

Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Roy. Fus.  Died: 07/10/16 aged 20

Buried Thiepval Memorial, France

Reference: Pier 8C 9A 16A

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WarMemorialsSurnamesM.html
#MeredithED

MEREDITH Eric Dunfee, 2nd Lieutenant.
32nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers.
Killed in Action 7 October 1916, aged 20.

Eric Dunfee Meredith was born at ‘Merstone’, Springfield Road, Wimbledon on 9 January 1896 (GRO reference: Mar 1896 Kingston 2a 310) to Howard Walter and Blanche Meredith (nee Dunfee). His parents had married on 2 June 1886 at Union Church, Upper Richmond Road, Putney.

In the 1891 census before Eric was born the family lived at 11, Springfield Road, Wimbledon. His 32 year old father earned his living as a shoe merchant, ‘employer’. His mother was aged 24 and his two siblings, Howard Douglas aged 3 and Marian Dorothy aged 1 month (born 25 February 1891) were recorded. The family employed three servants.

The 1901 census saw the family living at 8, St Mary’s Grove, Barnes. Eric’s father was an employer running a builders’ hardware business. His grandmother, Ann Dunfee was living with them and they employed three servants.

By 1911 the family was living at 1, Downs Avenue, Epsom. Eric’s father was still running his builders’ hardware business, and his brother Howard Douglas was a commercial traveller in builders’ hardware, presumably working for his father, whilst Eric was a scholar. Two of his aunts, Sarah and Lilian Dunfee, were visiting, both being ‘of private means’. Three servants were employed.

Eric was educated at King’s College School, Wimbledon and Epsom College from 1906-19118

He attested on 27 January 1915, at Epsom into the 19th (Service) Battalion Royal Fusiliers, a Battalion of the University and Public Schools Brigade, and was given service number 6122. He stated that he was 19 years old, lived at 1, Downs Avenue, Epsom, was unmarried and earned his living as an apprentice hardware merchant, although on 9 March 1916 he described himself as a clerk. He was 5 feet 8 inches tall and had a chest measurement of 35 inches with an expansion of 3 inches. Eric’s vision was not perfect, he suffered slight stigmatism and need glasses for reading. His next-of-kin was his father, Howard Walter Meredith of 1, Downs Avenue, Epsom, although his father also used the address of his builder’s merchants business, 68 York Road, Lambeth, S.E.

On 1 February 1915 Eric was inoculated against typhoid, and went to France on 14 November with the 19th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. He returned to the UK on 23 March 1916 to take up a commission, and the next day he was posted to the No 1 Officer Cadet Battalion at Denham. On 4 August 1916 he took a temporary commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 32nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers. The Battalion was in the 124th Brigade, 41st Division.

The small village of Ligny-Thilloy, on the Somme, was protected by an outer network of trenches and strong points, and the ground over which the village was to be attacked had been turned to thick mud after heavy rainfall. At 1-45pm on 7 October 1916, the much under strength Battalion was ordered to attack enemy positions, with its first objective being Bayonet Trench. Within an hour it became apparent that the attack had failed, and that the first objective had not been reached. The German positions were held in strength and artillery and machine gun fire had mown down the front companies.

There seems to be some confusion on the exact date that Eric died. The CWGC records the date as 7 October, whereas the ‘Soldiers Died CD’ records the date as between 4 – 10 October 1916, as does his surviving service record papers. The ‘Soldiers Died CD’ tells us that between 4 – 10 October two Officers and 77 Other Ranks from the Battalion died.
Eric has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing.

The Epsom Advertiser dated 20 October 1916 printed the following:
Second-Lieutenant Eric Dunfee Meredith, Royal Fusiliers, who was killed on October 7th, in his 21st year, was educated at King’s College School and Epsom College. He joined the Public Schools Brigade early in 1915 as a private, and was in the trenches in France for five months last winter. He returned to England as a cadet, and after training was gazetted in July. He returned to the front early in September. He was the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Meredith, of 16, Gwendolen-Avenue, Putney (late of Epsom).

The St Martin’s Church Roll of Honour states that:
ERIC DUNFEE MEREDITH, was killed in action in France on the 7th October 1916.

Eric was awarded the 1915 Star, the British War medal and the Victory medal, and they were sent to his father who was living at 105, Kenilworth Court, Putney.

It appears that by the time Epsom’s memorials were erected, the family had moved to Putney. So what was the link with Epsom that caused his name to appear on the Ashley Road memorial and the St. Martin’s church memorial?

Eric was remembered in ‘The Times’ dated 7 October 1937, in the ‘IN MEMORIAM ON ACTIVE SERVICE’ column by the following message:
MEREDITH. – In most loving remembrance of Eric Dunfee Meredith, Sec. Lieut., 32nd Royal Fusiliers, who on Oct. 7, 1916, fell while gallantly leading his platoon, in an attack near Ligny Thilloy (Battle of the Somme).

“Let those who come after see to it that his name is not forgotten.”

In addition to being commemorated on the Ashley Road memorial, St Martin’s church memorial and the Epsom College memorial, his name also appears on the St Mary’s church memorial, Putney.

Epilogue:
On 12 February 1919, Eric’s 27 year old sister Marian Dorothy Meredith married Lieutenant Godfrey Horton Ledger of Grove Lodge Epsom, in St. Johns church Putney. When her husband died on 2 April 1946 his effects were worth £1423 17s. 2d. Marian died aged 81 in 1972.

His brother Howard Douglas Meredith married Eleanor Melina Lorden, daughter of Sir John William Lorden MP, on 6 November 1919 in Holy Trinity church, Wandsworth. When Howard died on 13 January 1955 his effects were worth £12,598 5s. 4d. When his widow died on 3 June 1960 she left effects worth £125,010 16s. 1d.

Eric’s father Howard Walter Meredith of The Waldronhyrst Hotel, South Croydon, Surrey died on 5 May 1944, leaving effects worth £28,765. His mother Blanche Meredith of The Sackville Hotel, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex died on 8 May 1952 leaving effects worth £1924 17s. 11d.

Clive Gilbert 2013

Middlemost, Donald Peel

Middlemost, Donald Peel, brother of H. T. M. (1908), b. 1895, W., l. 1912, cloth manufacturer, Lieut. West Riding Regt. 1913-15 (T.F.), d. 1938

Milburn, Oscar le Fevre

Milburn, Oscar le Fevre, s. of dr. F. le F. Milburn of Claremont Square, N., b. 1883, G., XV, l. 1900, Univ. Coll. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; Kingston House, Hout Bay, Cape Province

Milburn, Oscar Le Fevre (1883- ?). Epsom College: 1897-1900
OSCAR le FERVE MILBURN (born 1883). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1897-1900. Rugby XV] was the son of Dr F. le F. Milburn, of Claremont Square, London. He received his medical education at University College Hospital, and then went into general practice at Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, where he was also Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Biggleswade District Union. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. in Mesopotamia and France, but was taken prisoner in March, 1918. After the War he emigrated to Hout Bay, Cape Town, South Africa.

Millett, William Roxburgh

Millett, William Roxburgh, s. of W. T. Millett, iron merchant, of Grassendale Park, Liverpool, b. 1887, L.S., l. 1903, colliery agent, Pte. Loy. N. Lancs Regt. 1914-18; 13 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead

Milligan, Capt. Robert Grenville Henderson
Milligan, Donald Samuel Eccles

**Birth Year:** 1890  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1904  
**Regiment:** T/Lt. R.A.M.C. Killed in action 1917  
**Unit:** 1/3 Fd Amb, RAMC  
**Rank:** Lt  
**Died:** 12/10/17  
**Aged:** 27  
**Buried:** Dunhallow ADS Cem, Belgium  
**Reference:** P1.RD.G36

**Regiment:** Capt. R.N.  
**Rank**

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**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

**Milligan, Capt. Robert Grenville Henderson, R.N., brother of the above, b. 1894, L.S. and P., l. 1905; Under Callow, Winscombe, Somerset**

**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Donald was born in Huddersfield, Yorkshire on 18 September 1890 (GRO Ref: Dec 1890 Huddersfield 9a 302) the second son of William Milligan and his wife Matilda Ann Halladay nee Egerton. His parents were both from Ireland and had married in Dublin in 1888. (Ref: Mar qtr 1888 Vol 2 Page 489, Dublin North). They had moved to Huddersfield with Donald’s older brother Wilfred, shortly before Donald’s birth. Donald was baptised at St Paul’s church Huddersfield on 30 October 1892 along with his brother William Hubert who had been born on 20 July that year.

In the 1891 census the family was recorded at 10 South Parade, Huddersfield. Donald’s father was 32 year old medical doctor. His mother was 33. Donald was 6 months old and Wilfred was 1. A medical assistant, James Hamilton, was staying with the family and they employed a general servant.

By 1901 the family had moved to 17 Park Street, Lytham. 42 year old William was practicing as a physician and surgeon. Matilda was 43. Donald had four siblings, Wilfred aged 11, William 8, Robert Grenville (recorded as Grenville) 7 and Geraldine aged 3. They employed a cook and a housemaid.

Donald and his three brothers all entered Epsom College on 15 September 1904. Donald started in B House in the Lower School. He was enrolled into the Lower Third form but during the course of the year moved into the Upper Third where he finished top of the 22 boys. He progressed to Propert House in the Upper School and skipped the Lower Fourth form. In 1906 came top of the 22 boys in the Middle Fourth and took the form prize. He skipped the Upper Fourth and moved into Shell Form. At first this stretched him too far and he came 21st out of the 22 boys. He repeated the year and came fourth and passed his lower School Certificate in 1908. He also passed the entire Preliminary scientific Examination in July 1908.

Dr Milligan found educating his four sons a financial strain and wrote to the College in the hope that the Council would give better terms. The School Committee agreed that the boys could be admitted for the total sum of £240 per year instead of £257 5s.

On leaving the College in July 1909 Donald entered St Thomas’s hospital medical school where he studied until 1915 attaining his MRCS and LRCP London in 1915. On qualifying in medicine he helped his father in his practice at Lytham in Lancashire.

They were living in the same 14 roomed house in Park Street in the 1911 census. Donald, Wilfred and William were all medical students but Grenville was a naval cadet. Geraldine was not at home.

After acting as casualty officer at St Thomas’ hospital, Donald obtained a commission as a temporary lieutenant in the RAMC on 1 Feb 1917.

He served with 1st/3rd Field Ambulance and was attached to the 1/7 Worcestershire Regiment during the third battle of Ypres (Passchendaele).

His obituary in the British Medical Journal 27 Oct 17 stated that he had just dressed a wounded man on a stretcher in a trench when he stood up and was killed instantaneously by a shell. However the report in the Epsomian stated that Donald was shot through the head.

He is buried in Dunhallow Advanced Dressing Station cemetery, 1.6km north of Ypres (Ieper) in Belgium. He is also remembered on his father’s tombstone in St Cuthbert’s churchyard, Lytham.

Probate was granted to his father on 30 May 1918 to administer his estate valued at £480 15s 6d. Donald’s Victory and British war medals were sent to his father at Cliftonville, Lytham.

**Probate:**

**Sources:**
| Milligan, Donald Samuel Eccles, brother of the above, b. 1890, L.S. and P., l. 1909, St. Thos. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A.M.C., killed in action 1917 |

| Donald Milligan |

Donald Milligan

| Milligan, Wilfred Egerton |

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<td>1904</td>
<td>T/Surg. R.N. 1914-18</td>
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| Researcher: |

Milligan, Wilfred Egerton (1889-1945).
Epsom College: 1904-1908
WILFRED EGERTON MILLIGAN (1889-1945). M.B. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1904-1908] was the son of Dr William Milligan, of Lytham, Lancashire, brother of Dr Donald Samuel Eccles Milligan [Epsom College 1904-1909], Dr William Hubert Milligan [Epsom College 1904-1909], and Captain Robert Grenville Henderson Milligan, R.N. [Epsom College 1904-1905]. He received his medical education at St Thomas’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Lytham St Anne’s, Lancashire. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon in the Royal Navy (1914-1918).

Milligan, William Hubert

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1915-20, desp, Order of the Nile


Milner, Charles Edward Hamilton

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C.

Charles Edward Hamilton, s. of Edward Milner, F.R.C.S., of New Cavendish Street, b. 1886, P., l. 1904, King’s Coll. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Maj. R.A.M.C. (T.F.); 30 Monks Walk, Reigate

Milson, Edgar George

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Beds Regt., killed in action, 1916

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

OE Doctors
Edgar was born at 135 Kennington Park Road, London on 27 June 1887, (GRO Ref: Sep 1887 St Saviour 1d 176), the only son of Dr George Millson OBE, MRCS, LRCP and his wife Sarah Ellen nee Butlin. His parents had married in 1878 (June 1878 Northampton 3b 93). His father was the Medical Officer of Health in Southwark. The 1891 census recorded the family at the same address, Edgar’s father was a 46 year old general medical practitioner and Medical Officer of Health, his mother was 38. He had two older sisters Ethel Beatrice aged 12 and Nina Evelyn Sophia 11. Edgar was 3. The family employed a cook and a housemaid.

Edgar entered the first form of Epsom College’s Lower School on 20 January 1898. For his first four years at the College he did very well academically usually coming in the top three boys in his year. In 1901 he moved into Propert House in the Upper School, where he was recorded in the 1901 census. In his last two years he slipped to middle of his year. He left the College in July 1904.

From Nov 1904-Oct 1909 he served an apprenticeship with Hudswell, Clarke and Co locomotive engineers.

Edgar was working as a railway engineer in Colombia, South America when war broke out. He returned home on SS Matiana arriving in Liverpool on 7 Dec 1914. Three days later he underwent an army medical at Holborn, London. He was 27 years and 6 months old, 5ft 10½ins tall, weighed 166lbs, had a 35inch chest which expanded to 38½ins, good vision in both eyes, sallow complexion, grey eyes, fair hair, scars on his right groin and left breast, 2 scars on his right forearm, and a sebaceous cyst above right buttock. He was able to ride a horse. He was found fit and enlisted as Lance Cpl in 10th Bn Middlesex Regiment stationed at Dovercourt, Essex. Prior to joining them he had to report to Capt Wootan at St Matthew’s Parish Hall, Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich on 13 July 1915 to undergo a course of instruction. He qualified as a 2nd class instructor in musketry.

He was granted sick leave wef 1st Oct and was found to have recovered so he was passed as fit for general service. He went to France on 23 (?) May 1915 and served with 18 Bn Bedfordshire Regiment.

1 Bn had been in the trenches near Arras from 14 June and it had been exceptionally quiet. Edgar was examining the enemy lines through his looking glasses at 4 am when he was killed by a sniper. His belongings were returned home which included: 1 correspondence case, 2 collar badges, wrist watch, brooch, tie pin, pair nail scissors, ID disc, cheque book (Holt) Advance book (blank)

It is not clear on which day Edgar was killed. Some sources (eg Times) have 17 June, others eg War diary, and CWGC record it as 18 June. A telegram on his TNA file stated that he was killed in action on 21 June 1916

There is also some confusion over the battalion in which he was serving. Some sources record that he was in 4th bn but his TNA file records that he was attached to 1 Bn when he was killed. He was 29 years old.

He was buried at Faubourg d’Amiens Grave 1 D 54, Arras Map 51b, sq G 26.b.9.7

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals. These were sent to his father at 90 Angell Road, Brixton.

Sources:
Census returns 1891 and 1901
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Medal Index Card
Times newspaper
TNA file WO 339/32282 long number 60993
1bn War diary June 1916
Monro, Eric Stuart

- Birth Year: HMM?
- Entered Epsom College: 1903
- Regiment: T/Capt Roy. Fus. 1914-18
- House: HMM?
- Rank: T/Capt Roy. Fus. 1914-18


Montgomery, Cuthbert Elliott

- Birth Year: HMM?
- Entered Epsom College: 1894
- Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.S.C. 1914-18
- House: HMM?
- Rank: T/Maj. R.A.S.C. 1914-18

Researcher: Montgomery, Cuthbert Elliott, M.C., brother of W. A. M. (1884), b. 1878, P., l. 1895, surveyor, T/Maj. R.A.S.C. 1914-18; 2 Queen Parade, Harrogate

Montgomery, James

- Birth Year: HMM?
- Entered Epsom College: 1897
- Regiment: Cdr. R.N.R.
- House: HMM?
- Rank: Cdr. R.N.R.

Researcher: Montgomery, James, R.D., brother of W. A. M. (1884), b. 1884, C., l. 1900 for H.M.S. Worcester, master mariner, Cdr. R.N.R.; 9 Akkerdal Avenue, Newlands, Cape Town

Moore, Edgecumbe Wentworth Armstrong

- Birth Year: HMM?
- Entered Epsom College: 1894
- House: HMM?
- Rank: Cdr. R.N.R.

Researcher: Moore, Edgecumbe Wentworth Armstrong

Moore, Edgecumbe Wentworth Armstrong (1880-1940).
Epsom College: 1894-1898
EDGECUMBE WENTWORTH ARMSTRONG MOORE (1880-1940). M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool) [Epsom College 1894-1898. Rugby XV. Cricket XI] was the son of Dr E. W. Moore, of Chiswick, West London, and brother of Dr Edward Bertram Leslie Moore [Epsom College 1888-1892]. He received his medical education at Liverpool University, and went into general practice at Brierley Hill, Staffordshire. During the First World War he served as a Lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918).

Moore, Henry William
Birth Year: 1857
Entered Epsom College: 1867
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Indian Labour Corps 1915-18

Moore, Henry William, brother of the above, b. 1857, l. 1867, tea planter in Assam, T/2nd Lt. Indian Labour Corps 1915-18, d. 1940

Morgan, Oswald Gayer
Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Morgan, Oswald Gayer, s. of dr. W. P. Morgan of Seaford, b. 1889, G, XI, h. XI, l. 1907, Clare Coll., Camb, and Guy's Hosp., B.A., M.B., M.Ch., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; 20 Norfolk Road, N.W. 8

OSWALD GAYER MORGAN
Distinguished Ophthalmic Surgeon who was President of the Ophthalmical Society of the United Kingdom.

“Courteous to all, never rushed, always ready to give advice and encouragement, tolerant even when things went wrong, slow to blame and quick to forgive.”

years. He was also Vice-President of the British Medical Association, President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, and Doyne Memorial Lecturer and medallist at the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress (1958).

Gayer Morgan was a patently selfless individual whose professional interest apart from his work, in which he was remarkably proficient, was the body politic. His chairmanship of the Ophthalmic Group Committee, and his support for the opticians and their claims at a time when unenforceable lines of demarcation were under contemplation, were a measure of his belief that the balance of group interests was a major factor in maintaining the health of the ophthalmic community - and how right he proved to be. It was said of Oswald Gayer Morgan that "With the death of Sir Stewart Duke-Elder he became the doyen of the ophthalmic profession in the United Kingdom."

Morley, The Rev. Canon George Stanley

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Morris, Arnold

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Morris, Claude Woodham

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Morris, Everard

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Morrison, Robert Gordon

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Morton, Arthur Ferris, s. of T. W. Morton, dentist, of Carlisle, b. 1895, L. S. and P., l. 1912, L’pool U., L.D.S., T/Lt. Liverpool Regt. 1914-18; 60 Warwick Road, Carlisle


Mudge, James

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Researchers: Mudge, James, s. of dr. James Mudge of Marazion, b. 1887, G., prefect, XV (capt.), XI, h. XI, l. 1906, rubber planter, journalist in the U.S.A., and afterwards in the Home Civil Service, T/Capt. (A/Maj.) Hampshire Regt. 1914-19, brother of J. M. (1904); Trevellyn, Marazion

Mudge, John

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<td>1904</td>
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Researchers: Mudge, John, brother of J. M. (1901), b. 1890, L.S. and G., l. 1905, occupation unknown, T/Lt. The Cameronians 1914-18

Munday, Sqdn. Ldr. Richard Burnard

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Richard Burnard Munday (RB) was born on 31st January 1896 at Plymouth (GRO 5b 208) the eldest child of Fleet Surgeon Richard Cleveland Munday MRCS., LRCP., RN, later to become Major-General RC Munday CB, and his wife Olive Louise formerly Burnard. RB’s second name is frequently misspelt ‘Bernard or Barnard’ but clearly Burnard is correct after his mother’s family. Two daughters were to be born later and at the time of the 1911 Census Olive Munday was living in Plymouth with her three children. Their father was with the Fleet at sea on HMS Hyacinth.

RB was educated at Plymouth College and in due course Epsom College where his father enrolled him in 1911. He entered Wilson House starting in the Middle Fourth Form when he was 15 and although rather low in the form annual results he distinguished himself on the rugger field playing in the First XV and later in the RAF Rugby XV (OE Doctors). He left school when still quite young in Easter 1913 apparently with the intention of following his father into the medical profession at Guy’s Hospital. However the war soon intervened and his talents led him to take up flying, then in its infancy. In February 1915, he obtained his Royal Aero Club Certificate of flying proficiency at the Military School, Brooklands flying a Maurice Farman Biplane. Though still a medical student living at his father’s address, 4 Westcombe Park Road, Blackheath, on the 16th February 1915 he enlisted into the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) as a Flight Sub-lieutenant. On 1st April he was promoted to Flt Lieutenant and posted to Eastchurch.

The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and the RNAS were both founded in 1912 and did not become separate services until mid-summer 1914. On 31st August 1915 RB went with the RNAS to the Dardanelles. He served with No 2 Naval Wing which operated from Imbros on the island of Lemnos in support of Allied forces in Salonika and Gallipoli. The job of the RNAS in those early days was to reconnoitre the enemy trenches plotting their location and scrutinising the enemy activity below. He was promoted to Acting Flt. Cdr. on 3rd December 1915.

On 2nd January 1916 a telegram was received by the War Office from the Wing Captain at Mudros, the main centre of operations and port on Lemnos, stating that RB had been slightly wounded on the 28th December 1915 by a bomb and he had been admitted to hospital, most likely a hospital ship off Mudros, and in due course he was transferred back to England where he was admitted to Chatham Hospital on 3rd February 1916. He was discharged on 7th February and was then reviewed
at the Admiralty on three occasions before being reported fit for duty again on 14th March. On the 20th March he was posted to Cranwell where he appears to have remained until August 1917 being promoted to Flt Cdr in June of that year. In August 1917 he went to Dover and then on to France.

The confidential reports made during his time in Gallipoli and at Cranwell demonstrate very clearly that his exceptional qualities were soon recognised. Reports from his time on No. 2 Wing in Gallipoli state on 11th March “Promising as an Officer” and then on 28th March “This Officer has done much good flying on active service, and is recommended for promotion”. At Cranwell in November 1916 he was again recommended for promotion and then in May 1917 “strongly recommended for promotion”.

By late August 1917 he was in Dunkirk flying with No. 8 Squadron RNAS where “he shows G. ability to command and (illegible) a flight well, but has not had much experience yet. Exceptionally good scout pilot”. His first operations report in the official record is dated 27th Sept 1917, when flying in his Sopwith Camel B 3921 at Brebières he “Fired into an enemy balloon shed; saw it burst into flames & burn to the ground. It is believed there was a balloon in the shed”.

However, although not recorded in the official record, two earlier victories have been partly attributed to him. On the 18th August he shared in the destruction of a German ‘Albatross’ with Flt Lieutenants Booker and Crundall, also from Naval 8, over Henin-Lietard. This was their last victory in a Sopwith Triplane which was shortly to be replaced by the Sopwith Camel, a bi-plane in which RBM scored all his other victories. On 2nd September he claimed his first night victory over Quiery la Motte when he destroyed a balloon. His technique which was destined to become so successful was described in detail in his obituary in The Times. The attacks were generally carried out at night and required precise navigation and sound judgement and nerve. “He crossed the enemy lines at high altitude, located his aerodrome or kite balloon target, shut off his engine, and then glided down in a long spiral until he was within machine gun range. Then he poured a stream of tracer bullets into the balloon or aeroplane shed, put on his engine and climbed again, to return later to attack the troops summoned to put out the flames.”

A list of his other victories in the hand written log with dates are as follows:-

22nd October 1917: Dropped four 20lb bombs on to Monoheaux Aerodrome from 4000 feet, then went down and fired into the hangars. Made a successful forced landing in open country east of Amiens.

7th November 1917: Set an enemy kite balloon on fire, fired a burst into the shed & fired into the Metallurgique Works = AF03648.

21st January 1918: Brought down enemy balloon in flames.

24th January 1918: Shot down enemy Albatross scout completely out of control.

29th January 1918: Shot down E/A out of control.

3rd February 1918: Shot down E/A vertically completely out of control.

On the 28th October 1917 he was noted as “a very good pilot indeed” and on Christmas Day of that year he was recorded as a “Flight Commander. Very keen & capable pilot”.

On the 16th March 1918 Flt. Cdr. Richard Burnard Munday R.N.A.S. was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC). The London Gazette (Issue 30581 p3395) citation read: “For courage and initiative. Offensive patrols under his able and determined leadership have consistently engaged enemy aircraft, and he has displayed the utmost courage in carrying out special missions alone, both by day and night.”

“On the 21st February 1918 he attacked a new type enemy two-seater machine. The enemy machine dived steeply east, and Flt. Cdr. Munday followed and closed in, firing a long burst at close range, after which the enemy went down vertically out of control.”

“On other occasions he has brought down enemy machines completely out of control, and has set fire to and destroyed enemy kite balloons both by day and night. On one occasion he attacked an enemy kite balloon at night, and destroyed both the balloon and its shed by fire.”

The original hand written citation for the DSC sent by the C-in-C France to the War Office for approval by the King (TNA ADM 171/85) is interesting in that it differs slightly and gives more detail of some of the other engagements RBM undertook. After noting that he was attached to RFCorps, 1st Brigade 10th (Army) Wing it read: “For courage and initiative. Offensive patrols under his able and determined leadership have consistently engaged enemy aircraft, and he has displayed the utmost courage in carrying out special missions alone, both by day and night.”

“On the 29th September 1917 (presumably the event dated by RBM as 27th in his hand written log at the time), he attacked an enemy Kite Balloon between Giverny la Motte and Brebières. 100 rounds were fired and both balloon and shed were destroyed by fire. On the 6th November 1917 (7th in the log), he proceeded at dawn to attack No.4 enemy balloon position East of Meurchin. The balloon which was outside its shed, was attacked and destroyed by fire.”
“On the 21 January 1918 he proceeded at 7pm to attack No 10 enemy Kite Balloon between Henin-Lietard and Beaumont. He fired 200 rounds into the balloon which burst into flames and lit up the whole locality so that Henin-Lietard and Beaumont were clearly visible.”

In addition to this recognition of courage by his own country, on the 13th September 1918 (LG 30900 p10851) it was announced that His Majesty The King of The Belgians had awarded the Croix de Guerre to a number of British personnel including Flt Cdr Richard B Munday R.N.A.S. (now Major, RAF). At the end of the war he received the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal (TNA Medal Roll),

When the RFC and RNAS ceased to exist, combining to become the RAF on 1st April 1918, he remained in the military. On the 20th April he was posted back to Eastchurch and at the request of Captain Briggs there he was promoted to Squadron Cdr1. In the London Gazette in August 1919 (LG 31486 p9866) the Secretary of State for Air, then Winston Churchill, announced the names of those who were granted permanent commissions in the RAF with the ranks stated, amongst them being Captain RB Munday DSC. He then went to Germany with the army of occupation from January 1920 until January 1922 before returning to the RAF Depot in England. He was then sent to serve in the Aircraft-carrier Eagle in the Mediterranean for three years and when he returned on the 3rd June 1925 he was awarded the Air Force Cross. (LG 33053 p3781).

The citation was not published in the Gazette, as was the custom when an award was announced on the King’s birthday, but the recommendation submitted to His Majesty by the Secretary of State for Air, Samuel Hoare, read as follows: “This officer has set a splendid example of sea flying in a ship-plane from a carrier while engaged in continuous reconnaissance under service conditions with the Fleet at sea. These exercises were carried out under conditions that were entirely novel to both pilots and observers and demanded great skill and endurance. Flight Lieutenant Munday’s example has been a great incentive to all pilots and observers, and has stimulated Naval flying”. In effect it would appear that RBM was blazing a trail for the development of the Fleet Air Arm which was to rise to prominence in the years before and during WW2. On the 1st January 1927 he was promoted from Flt. Lieut. (Captain) To Squadron Leader ( LG 33235 p9). For three years he served on the China Station in HMS Argus, the first aircraft carrier, which had been converted from an ocean liner undergoing construction at the beginning of the war. This ship was essentially used for research into various aspects of sea going aircraft development and RBM’s experience and skill in this field must have contributed much to the knowledge which was being built up at this time and which was to play such an important role in WW2.

Sadly after this posting his health began to suffer. On 26th April 1930 in Brussels he married Marie Jose de Reul. As far as is known there were no children of the marriage. On 5th May 1932 he retired from the RAF and he died of heart failure at his home in Devon on 11 July of the same year age 36 (GRO Plympton 5b 251) possibly as a result of illness contracted during his wartime experiences. His small Estate was left to his widow.

There can be little doubt that Richard Burnard Munday, in those earliest days of the war in the air, was one of the great pioneering airman of WW1. His qualities of supreme courage, skill and resolution helped to set the standard on which the early RAF was founded. Had he lived the Luftwaffe would no doubt have found him a very formidable foe indeed when they so unwisely took on the RAF again in 1940.

The Royal Aero Club flying certificate (left) awarded to Richard Burnard Munday (right)

A photograph, as pictured on The Aerodrome website from which the following information is drawn, is of a Sopwith Camel aircraft of 1917, the type in which Richard B Munday achieved the eight victories which made him a WW1 Fighter Ace6. It was so named because of the humped fairing over its twin machine guns. The old adage that a camel is an animal designed by a committee could well have applied to its Sopwith cousin. It was notoriously difficult for trainee pilots to learn to fly it owing to its tendency to flip into a spin and then somersault at low speeds such as when landing or taking off. Of pilots who died flying it 1,413 died in combat and 385 in non-combat accidents. In spite of its difficult characteristics more allied victories were achieved with The Camel than any other aircraft in WW16.

Sources:
GRO
Epsom College Yellow Books
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
OE Doctors website.
1The National Archives (TNA): ADM 273/6/45; ADM 171/85
2Naval Aces of WW1 by Jon Guttmann. Osprey Publishing Ltd 2011. P 6;10;11;
3Gallipoli 1915 by Peter Doyle. The History Press 2011; p72
4The Times – Obituary; July 13th 1932
Epsom College: 1911-1913

MAJOR RICHARD BURNARD MUNDAY (1896-1932). D.S.C., A.F.C., R.A.F. [Epsom College 1911-1913. Rugby XV] was the son of Major General R. C. Munday, of Plymouth. He received his medical education at Guy's Hospital but it is not certain that he obtained a medical qualification, as the First World War interrupted his studies and he enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service in 1915. In 1916 he served as an instructor at R.A.F. Cranwell and then joined 8 Naval Squadron as a Flight Commander in 1917. He became one of the most celebrated First World War Aces, scoring 9 victories and became the most proficient aviator at attacking and destroying enemy balloons at night. This earned him the D.S.C. in 1918, the London gazette reporting that: “On the 21st February 1918, he attacked a new type of enemy two-seater machine. The enemy machine dived steeply east, and Flight Commander Munday followed and closed in, firing a long burst at close range, after which the enemy went down vertically out of control, on other occasions …he has set fire to and destroyed enemy kite balloons both by day and night.” In 1925, the Secretary of state for Air, Samuel Hoare, recommended the award of the Air Force Cross to Munday, the recommendation reading: “This officer has set a splendid example of sea flying in a ship plane from a carrier while engaged in continuous reconnaissances under service conditions with the Fleet at sea. These exercises were carried out under conditions that were entirely novel to both pilots and observers and demanded great skill and endurance. Flight Lieutenant Munday’s example has been a great incentive to all pilots and observers, and has stimulated Naval flying.” He was subsequently awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre. Richard Munday was member the R.A.F. Rugby XV.
The Aerodrome

Sopwith Camel aircraft of 1917, the type in which Richard B Munday achieved the eight victories which made him a WW1 Fighter Ace

June 1915: Flight-Supt. Monday has been making some flights lately, and caused considerable excitement in the neighbourhood by descending not far from the College, towards the end of last holidays. This would be Richard Burnard Munday (1911) the air ace.

Epsom College Archive

Munro, Frederick Finlay

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/Lt. M.G.C. 1915-19
Researcher:

Munro, Frederic Finlay, s. of dr. Finlay Munro of Middlesbrough, b. 1896, L.S. and P., l. 1913, occupation unknown, T/Lt. M.G.C. 1915-19

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Murray, John Gawler

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1884
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Researcher:

Munro, Frederic Finlay, s. of dr. Finlay Munro of Middlesbrough, b. 1896, L.S. and P., l. 1913, occupation unknown, T/Lt. M.G.C. 1915-19

John Gawler Murray (1868-1934) was the son of Dr J. I. Murray of Scarborough. He received his medical education at Edinburgh University, and went into general practice at Blakesley, Northamptonshire. During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C., and was put in charge of the military hospital at Scarborough. He was an Admiralty Surgeon, which involved going to sea in order to render assistance to ships which had been mined by the Germans.

Murray, Richard Galway

Richard Galway Murray (1873-1953) was the son of Dr Thomas Murray of Trinidad, and brother of Beverley Thomas Murray [Epsom College 1886-1892]. He received his medical education at St George's Hospital, and was appointed Assistant Medical Registrar. He then entered general practice near Marble Arch, London, but his work there was interrupted at the commencement of the South African War (1899-1902) when he enlisted as a Surgeon Captain in the Imperial Yeomanry. He then returned to his work in general practice, but this was again interrupted at the start of the First World War, when he joined the R.A.M.C. as a Surgeon Captain and was placed in charge of the military hospital at Lydd. In 1916, he served as Medical Officer with the 55th Heavy Artillery Group at the Battle of the Somme. After the war he took the degree of M.D. at the University of Durham and the Diploma of Medical Radiology (D.M.R.E.) of Cambridge University, before being appointed Radiologist to St Charles Hospital, North Kensington and St Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow. In 1897, he was a member of the guard-of-honour at the celebration of Queen Victoria’s diamond jubilee. He represented the United Hospitals Athletic Club in the 100 yards.

Mutch, John Bernard

Mutch, John Bernard (1891 - ?).
Epsom College: 1904-1907

JOHN BERNARD MUTC (born 1891). M.B., Ch.B. (Aberdeen) [Epsom College 1904-1907] was the son of Dr F. R. Mutch, of Birmingham. He received his medical education at Aberdeen University, and then went into general practice at Moseley, Nottinghamshire. He also served as a Neurologist for the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Leicester. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon in the Royal Navy (1918), and during the Second World War as a Squadron Leader in the R.A.F.V.R. (1939-1945).

Napper, Edward Robert

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1883</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1895</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regiment: T/Capt G.S.O.III 1914-18</td>
<td>Rank</td>
</tr>
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Napper, Edward Robert, s. of A. A. N. (1855), b. 1883, C., l. 1900, gold miner and automobile engineer, served in Pagets Horse in Boer War, served as Tpr. in Natal Rebellion, T/Capt. G.S.O. III 1914-18, T/Capt. and Transport Officer Queen’s Rgt. 1939-42, father of A. R. F. N. (1926); 4 Waterden Crescent, London Road, Guildford

Napper, Frank William

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1881</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1893</th>
</tr>
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<td>Regiment: Capt. Royal Sussex Regt.</td>
<td>Rank</td>
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Napper, Frank William, s. of A. A. N. (1855), b. 1881, C., l. 1898, farmer, Capt. R. Suss. Regt. (T.F.)

Naunton, Wingfield George

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1899</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1914</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regiment: T/2nd Lt. The E. Surrey Regt. 1917-18</td>
<td>Rank</td>
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Naunton, Wingfield George [Standidge], s. of G. H. Naunton, solicitor, of Redhill, b. 1899, F., l. 1917, solicitor, T/2nd Lt. The East Surrey Regt. 1917-18; 73 Grand Avenue, Worthing

Neal, Thomas Hemmant

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year: 1878</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1893</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regiment: Gunner, R.G.A., 1914-18</td>
<td>Rank</td>
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Neal, Thomas Hemmant, brother of J. N. (1878), b. 1878, G., l. 1895, bank manager, Gunner R.G.A. 1914-18

Neale, Cdr. Frederick Cooper

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College: 1913</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regiment:</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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Neale, Cdr. Frederick Cooper
Neale, Cdr. Frederick Cooper, R.N. (retd.), s. of Frederick Neale of Baling, b. 1898, W., prefect, XI, l. 1916


Newington, Clarence Charles

Newington, Percy Wilmott

Died 21/03/18 aged 39
Buried Arras Memorial, France
Reference: Bay 2

Researcher: Liz Manterfield
Percy was born in 1898 (GRO ref Apr 1898 Sevenoaks 2a 700) the son Dr Charles Wilmott Henderson Newington and his wife Maud Elizabeth nee Soundy of The Croft, High Street, Edenbridge. His parents had married on 4 Dec 1895 in Sutton, Surrey (GRO Ref: Dec 1895 Epsom 2a 33).

The family was living at The Croft in the 1901 census. Charles was a 35 year old medical practitioner and Maud was 30. Two year old Percy had two brothers, Clarence Charles aged 4 and Gordon Henderson who was 1. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid.

In 1911 the family was still living at the Croft which was 14 room house. Charles senior was 45, Maud 40, Percy 12, Lucy Maud 9 and Sybil Margaret Adele 5. They employed 2 servants. The couple had been married for 15 years and had had six children, five of whom were living.

His father registered him to start in the Lower Fourth Form, Carr House in Epsom College’s Upper School on 21 September 1911. Clarence started at the same time and Gordon followed in 1912. Percy had an undistinguished career academically invariably finishing near the bottom of his form. He was a keen hockey player and was in the first eleven in both the 13/14 and 14/15 seasons. He left in April 1915.

Percy entered Sandhurst in July 1915 and in April 1916 received a commission in the East Kent Regiment, “The Buffs”, although his first preference had been the West Kents. He stated that he had lived in the county for 17 years hence he felt an affiliation with these regiments. He went to France 18 July 1916. He survived the first battle of the Somme and in October he became a lieutenant and intelligence officer. He was in action at Cambrai.

At Christmas 1917 he was at home on leave and was able to meet up with local friends. On more than one occasion he visited the Edenbridge Mens’ Club for a game of billiards.

1 and 6 Bns were engaged in the Battle of St Quentin which took place 21-23 Mar 1918. Percy was killed at Vendeuil but has no known grave. He is remembered on the Arras memorial in Faubourg-d’Amiens Cemetery France along with 35,000 servicemen of UK and the Commonwealth who died in the Arras Sector between spring 1916 and August 1918.

His CO wrote:

“Lieutenant Newington’s death is a great loss to us. He was my Headquarter’s Intelligence Officer so I know from close personal acquaintance what a charming boy he was and I feel personally the great blow it must be to lose such a son. He was such a conscientious and efficient officer but so young to be required to make the extreme sacrifice but he died doing his duty gallantly and well.”

His Captain also wrote:

“But you will, I know, understand that your great grief is shared by all of us who knew, admired and may I say, loved your son Percy. He was very popular with all who knew him.”

His file at the TNA was radically weeded in the 1930s and only correspondence relating to settling financial matters has survived. There is a cheque on the file in favour of the Expeditionary Force Canteen for 195 francs, which would have covered his food requirements. It was returned marked “Drawer deceased.”

He was awarded the British War and victory medals, which were sent to his father at The Croft, Edenbridge.

Administration of his estate valued at £150 16s 3d was granted to his father on 9 July 1918. After the war his father was actively involved in establishing the War Memorial Hospital in Edenbridge to which he gave his services.

Sources:
CWGC
Free BMD
London Gazette 6 Apr 1916
Probate
Sussex Courier 3 Dec 1937
The Times 10 Apr 1918
TNA WO 339/59499
On the night of 20/21 March 1918 British patrols found gaps in the enemy wire defences. The British artillery began to fire deterrent bursts on selected localities and poison gas was released from British cylinders facing St-Quentin. The Germans retaliated with a huge bombardment. British artillery began to reply but communications were shattered and the guns partly neutralised or destroyed over the next few hours of shelling. At 5.30am: some German infantry began to attack south of River Oise and captured the lock over Canal de la Sambre et l'Oise north of Travecy and the front line held by 14th (Light) Division in area of Itancourt.

- German infantry are across the La Fère/St Quentin road, having captured Moÿ de l’Aisne after initial heavy losses.

**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Newington, Percy Wilmott, brother of the above, b. 1898, C., l. 1915, T/Lt. The Buffs, killed in action 1918

Newman, Jocelyn Eric

- Birth Year: 1898
- Entered Epsom College: 1907
- Regiment: S.A. Forces 1914-15, T/Lt. P. of W. Own (W.Yorks) Regt. 1916-1

**Newman, Jocelyn Eric, s. of R. W. N. (1883), b. 1894, W., l. 1910, area manager for an oil company, South African Forces 1914-15, T/Lt. P. of W. Own (W. Yorks) Regt. 1916-17, and West African Regt. 1918-20, father of W. T. N. (1939) and R. L. N. (1943); Rest Harrow, Barton Lane, New Milton**

Newman, John Herbert

- Birth Year: 1871
- Entered Epsom College: 1884

**Newman, John Herbert, s. of dr. Henry Newman of Hadleigh, b. 1871, C., l. 1887, occupation unknown, served as a sergeant-major, killed in action 1917**

Newsom, Alexander Shaw

- Birth Year: 1899
- Entered Epsom College: 1908
- Regiment: Lt. R.G.A. 1916-18

**Newsom, Alexander Shaw, s. of J. A. Newsom of The College, b. 1899, D.B., prefect, XI, l. 1916, potter and company director, Lieut. R.G.A. 1916-18, brother of J. B. N. (1912); Blagdon Court, near Bristol**

Newth, Alfred Arthur Edmund

- Birth Year: 1898
- Entered Epsom College: 1903
- Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

**Newth, Alfred Arthur Edmund, s. of R. W. N. (1883), b. 1898, C., l. 1915, T/Lt. The Buffs, killed in action 1918**


Epsom College: 1903-1906

ALFRED ARTHUR EDMUND NEWTH (1887-1958). O.B.E., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H. (Oxon.) [Epsom College 1903-1906] was the son of Dr A. H. Newth of Hayward’s Heath, Sussex. He was awarded an Entrance Scholarship to the Westminster Hospital, where he won the Sturges Prize. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918) in France, and after the War was appointed Assistant School Medical Officer for the City of Nottingham (1914-1954), and Senior School Medical Officer for the City of Nottingham (from 1923-1954). He was an Honorary Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, President of the Nottingham Medico-Chirurgical Society, and Vice-President of the Section of Child Health at the British Medical Association Annual Meeting in Harrogate (1949). His especial interest was in ‘handicapped pupils,’ and in 1945 he was appointed by the Minister of Education to serve on the Advisory Committee on Handicapped Pupils. His pioneering work led to the establishment of Child Guidance Clinics throughout the country. In 1952 he was awarded the O.B.E., an honour “he well deserved, for he had made himself one of the experts in the work of the school health service”

Newton, Sydney Davidson

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: Cdr. R.N.R.

Newton-Clare, Flt.-Cdr. Edward Thomas

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: RNAS, RAF

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Edward Thomas Newton-Clare (ETN-C) was born in Calne Wiltshire on the 13th May 1881. His parents had married in Islington in 1880 his father, Dr Edward Shackfield Newton-Clare, (1852-1893) being a medical practitioner the son of a Wesleyan Minister. (ETN-C) had two brothers who also served, Major Herbert J Newton-Clare O.B.E., R.A.F. and Captain Walter S Newton-Clare M.B.E., R.A.F. but only Edward went to Epsom College.

Dr Newton-Clare died in 1893 leaving his widow Emma née Honychurch, later Haworth (1852-1939)4, with three young boys to bring up. It seems that the family helped here and Edward was eventually entered for the College by M. Newton-Clare Esq., of 2 Belmont Villas, Bexley Heath, Kent, possibly an uncle.

He went to Epsom in 1896 and entered Wilson House. He started in the Upper Third form where he won the form prize and then moved to the Middle Fourth coming 7th of 25 boys at the end of his first year. He also won the junior geography prize and was awarded the general knowledge prize in June 1897 by the School Council. His name then disappears from the school records and clearly he left the College some time in 18981, confirmed by his record from the Institute of Civil Engineers (Ancestry), which shows that he worked as a pupil with J&C Hall Ltd. of Dartford in 1898 before going up to Clare College Cambridge2 in 1901 to study engineering. He completed his training in 1905 and then spent two and a half years gaining practical experience as an engineer. He obtained his BA degree in 1904 and MA in 19093 having become an Associate Member
of the Institute of Civil Engineers in April 1907. The 1911 census finds him working as a steel constructor living at the Salisbury Hotel, Salford. According to his service record he worked from 1911 until 1913 with Edward Wood Ltd. at their iron works in Salford (TNAcADM). He raced at Brooklands with some success in 1912 and then “took up flying for fun” at the Vickers Flying School, Brooklands4 in 1913 where he obtained his Flying Certificate in July flying a Vickers Biplane5.

In January 1914 ETN-C joined the Naval Wing of the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) as a probationary Sub-Lieutenant at the Central Flying School. He was confirmed as a Sub-Lieutenant in May and went to the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) Station at Eastchurch. On 27 July 1914 he was sent to the Naval Station at Immingham and became a Flight-Lieutenant returning to Eastchurch in early September (TNAbADM). In addition to his flying skills the military noted that he had “a working knowledge of Spanish and French”.

The RFC had been founded in 1912 but even before this a naval flying school had been set up on the Isle of Sheppey. It was intended that the Air Battalion, as the forerunner of the RFC was known, and this Naval Wing should be brought together as the RFC but the Admiralty had other ideas being unwilling to hand over its airmen to the army. Thus the RNAS was formed in July 1914 and maintained its tradition of using naval terms and ranks until it was absorbed into the Royal Air Force in April 1918.

In August 1914 ETN-C moved to France with 3 Wing RNAS5 serving under Sqn. Cdr. Spenser Grey D.S.O. and Major Gerrard C.M.G., D.S.O.4. They were stationed near Dunkirk and he took part in the first bombing raid on Cologne in September 1914. His record gives details:-

“23.9.14. Mentioned in Despatches for Meritorious Work in connection with the air attack on airship sheds at Dusseldorf & Cologne. 12.10.14. Flew low over German lines at Antwerp & dropped bombs while under heavy shell fire at close range.”

“22.3.15. Meritorious Work in air attack on Ostend–Zeebrugge & Bruges on Feb. 11th, 12th & 16th (TNA aADM).”

In June 1915 he was promoted to Flt. Cdr (LG 29214 p6437) and in August Gerrard’s Wing was sent to the Dardanelles where ETN-C served under Sqn. Cdr. Charles Samson4 a charismatic figure who, when weather conditions prevented flying, set off in armoured cars which he had designed himself, to shoot up enemy units in the vicinity6. The stress was clearly beginning to tell on ETN-C and in July Samson suspended him from flying on account of his drinking and in October 1915 he was brought back home for a spell at the Clement Talbot Works before being sent back to Dunkirk in January 1916 (TNA aADM).

In March 1916 5 Wing RNAS was formed at Dover under Sqn. Cdr. Spenser Grey8 and then moved to France. The Wing was based initially at Couldekerque a few miles south east of Dunkirk. At the start it was comprised of A and B Squadrons but on 31st December 1915 they become 4 and 5 Squadrons RNAS.

The story of 5 Squadron RNAS during 1916-17 was described in detail by Squadron Leader CPO Bartlett DSc* in his book In The Teeth of the Wind8 which is based on his diary made at the time. There are many references to ETN-C within it. When Flt. Lt. Bartlett arrived at 5 Wing in September 2016, ETN-C was one of the two Flt Cdr’s serving under Sdn. Cdr. Spenser Grey. The RNAS appears to have taken an offensive role from the outset as opposed to a purely observational one, No. 5 Squadron being primarily a bomber station which spent much of its time attacking German held ports along the coast between Ostend, Zeebrugge and Bruges. They bombed railway installations along the Ypres salient in 1917 during the 3rd Battle of Ypres and when the Germans began to bomb London using their huge Gotha bombers, 5 Squadron bombed the Gotha bases near Ghent destroying many of the enemy machines on the ground. In late 1917 and in the spring of 1918 with the build up to the Ludendorff offensive the Squadron moved south back to the old Somme battlefield harrying the enemy by bombing its airfields to hinder reconnaissance work. The day to day squadron activities, frequent aircraft crashes on take-off and landing, battles in the air and the physical hardship experienced by aircrew flying in open cockpits at high altitude in winter living with death on a daily basis are described in stark detail in Bartlett’s diary. What follows is a summary of ETN-C’s activity from the diary, with some additional information from his official record, during his time with 5 Squadron, from the time of its arrival in France until August 1917 when he was admitted to Chatham Hospital with ‘neurasthenia’.

On the 6th September 1916 he was “Mentioned in connection with air attack on Ghistelles Aerodrome on 3rd inst.” and on 7th September was again “Mentioned in connection with attack on St. Denis Westrem” (TNA bADM). Bartlett8 records that in a raid on Ostend on 12th November 1916 in which 18 aircraft took off initially, “Only three pilots actually caught sight of Ostend. Newton-Clare came down to about a 100 feet over the town and saw a cyclist fall off his bicycle in alarm”. Pilots often went back to England on the daily Destroyer crossings to pick up new aircraft to replace losses an example of this being on Christmas Eve when ETN-C arrived back from Dover with a Triplane. On the 2nd February 1917 he and 2 other pilots left for England to pick up Triplanes on a day when 28 degrees of frost was noted at 8 am and there was 2 inches of snow on the ground. They returned to following day with 2 Sopwith Pups and a Triplane. On 28th February he had a bad crash when he choked his engine on take-off and hit a large tree which snapped in two on the Dunkirk-Bergues road. He and his passenger were lucky to get away with nothing worse than severe bruising. A photograph of his wrecked plane is shown in the book.

In April 1917 No. 5 squadron was moved a few miles south to a smaller airfield at Petite Synthe with No.4 Squadron going to Bray Dunes. Couldekerque was taken over by 7 Squadron who were equipped with the new Handley Page bomber, described as a “colossal machine” by Bartlett. This required the longer runway at Couldekerque although the squadrons at Couldekerque and Petite Synthe seemed to have remained in close contact with each other. On 31 December 1916 ETN-C had been promoted to Sdn. Cdr. (LG 29886 p13) and he was in command of 5 Squadron when it arrived at Petite Synthe. There they were equipped with new De Havilland 4’s and became a purely day bombing squadron. The DH4 was a bi-plane fitted with a 250hp Rolls-
Royce engine and it could carry a 450lb bomb load. The observer had twin Lewis guns at his disposal and the pilot, twin synchronised Vickers machine guns firing through the propeller. The flying speed of the early models which ETN-C would have flown before an engine upgrade was around 110 knots.

On the 12th May 1917 the London Gazette recorded the award of the DSO to ETN-C the citation reading “During the past year he has led his squadron with conspicuous success in numerous bomb attacks and on many occasions has engaged and driven down hostile machines” (LG 30066 p4625). The members of 5 squadron went over to Coudekerque for a celebratory dinner for him and 3 others who had been awarded DSCs. Two days later on the 14th a Lieutenant Commander Sturdee accompanied by a naval surgeon came over from Coudekerque for lunch and in the afternoon “Newton-Clare took Sturdee for a joyride on NS221”.

Another celebration took place on 5th June when the Belgian King visited Coudekerque with a number of dignitaries and carried out an investiture. Later in its July issue (LG 30194 p7427) the Gazette announced among others “Chevalier of the Order of Leopold conferred on Squadron Cdr. ET Newton-Clare DSO RNs by HM The King of Belgium”. A number of confidential reports were made in his record during his time in Dunkirk and that of 30th June 1917 best sums them up; “Zealous & capable Sqdn. C.O. Has considerable technical knowledge”.

At times when flying conditions were unfavourable or aircraft out of action due to damage it seems the pilots took a day off and on one of these, 11th July 1917 “the CO planned a day off to ‘see the war’”. The squadron flew off to Bailleul, “the CO with Newton-Clare in behind” arriving shortly afterwards. They then visited Poperinghe by car and visited the former ‘No Man’s Land’ and the devastated Messines Ridge where “We poked our heads into numerous more or less collapsed dugouts but were nearly overcome by the smell of rotting corpses – many gruesome sights which had not been cleared up”. On such a clear day they could see Ypres and far into enemy territory with firing in progress only half a mile away. They then all went back to Bailleul for tea before flying home.

On 17th July 1917 he was invalided home to Chatham Hospital with a diagnosis of neurasthenia defined as a psychoneurosis characterised by abnormal fatigability often associated with shock or injury. He left hospital on the 31st and by 21st August was considered fit for duty and was told by telegram to return to Dunkirk (TNA bADM). However a week later he was brought back to England to the Depot at Chingford. He had been in the front line for much longer than was usual and clearly he was overdue for a well earned rest.

It seems that he was then selected for further training experience and after a month of special duties at the Air Dept. he went on to Cranwell, before in February 1918 he was sent to Manston “in command”. On 01.01.1918 a note had been made on his record that he was “A good pilot. Capable Executive Officer ”(TNA aADM). He moved in April to HQ Northern Training Brigade at Fossgate, York before returning to France with the BEF as a Squadron Cdr. of 98 Squadron R.A.F., flying De Havilland 9’s.

When the RAF was formed in April 1918 by the amalgamation of the RFC and the RNAS he was granted a permanent commission in the RAF with the rank of Major, the RAF at first adhering to the army ranking. Shortly after this when it became clear that the air force was to be a permanent feature of the military they adopted their own ranks and he would have been termed Squadron Leader. However on 5th June 1918, as a Major, ETN-C took command of No 98 Squadron RAF under General R.E.T. Hogg. He was the second Old Epsomian to take charge of 98 Squadron, Major E.L.M.L. Gower A.F.C. having commanded it from 21 September 1917 until 14th December 1917.

The night before ETN-C took over the Squadron the airfield at Coudekerke had been heavily bombed and on the 6th June the Squadron moved to Ruisseauville. In the following weeks they attacked railway junctions at Courtrai and Tournai. As the German offensive increased Haig asked for fighter and bomber support for the French air force and on 14th July the Squadron moved south to Chailly-en-Brie to take part in the Second Battle of the Marne4, 7. Many attacks on German positions were carried out often against low level targets such as bridges over the Marne, a particularly hazardous activity. The last operational flight over the Champagne region took place on 29th July 1918 after which they returned to Blangernont ready for the coming Battle of Amiens.

On 8th August 1918 98 Squadron attacked enemy airfields and then in the evening the railway stations at Peronne and Chaunet. ETN-C remained in command throughout August 1918 in Marshall Joffre’s Armée de Manoeuvre 4, 7. However on the 22nd August he was admitted to the Field Hospital at Wimereux and gave up his command (TNA cAIR). He appears to have left hospital in mid-September and then probably returned to England to serve at the ‘Arm Exp Stn’ from 25th October the hand written note being difficult to interpret. In June 1919 he was transferred to the retired list (LG 31440 p8602 and appears to have left the RAF soon after.

In May 1919 he was awarded the 1914 Star and Clasp, as he had been “under the close fire of the enemy” in September 1914, and he would have automatically received the British War Medal and Victory Medal which he would have been entitled to wear in addition to the D.S.O. and medal of Chevalier of the Order of Leopold. At a time when the life of a pilot was often little more than a few weeks he had somehow survived, spending much of his time in the thick of the fighting throughout the war, often facing death on a daily basis yet in spite of the strain on his health seeing it through to the end. His was an example of true courage.

In 1918 he married Aileen Yvonne Marianne Swann (1890-1969), daughter of Major General John Christopher Swann C.B.
(1856-1939) of the Indian Army, in Aylesbury Buckinghamshire. ETN-C and his wife had three children and it appears that the family went out to Trinidad for a time after the war as a daughter Elizabeth (1921-1985) was born there. They also had a daughter Margaret who was born in 1924 in Warminster, Wiltshire. It is likely however that their, son John Edward, also born in Trinidad, as no record of his birth in England has been found. Following in the footsteps of his father he joined the RAF before WW2 but on the 6th September 1940 as a Pilot Officer in 144 Squadron, a bomber Squadron equipped with Handley Page Hampdens, he was killed on active service on a night bombing mission over Germany. His name is preserved on the Runnymede Memorial, panel 9, a Memorial which records the names of those members of the RAF who died in service and who have no known grave.

ETN-C died in St Pancras, London in June 1944 when he was 63. His widow died in Eastbourne in 1969 age 79.

Sources:

Ancestry
General Registry Office
Epsom College Register
London Gazette (LG)
The National Archives (TNA): aADM 273/3/46 bADM 273/3/109 cAIR 76/87/57
1 Epsom College Yellow Books.
2 The War List of the University of Cambridge 1914-1918
3 Clare College Archive.
5 Forces War Records.
6 First World War in the Air by Phil Carradice: Amberly Publishing; 2012 p 44.
7 A Short History of No. 98 Squadron RAF by WR Lambert & RA Brown.1967.(Google search)

*Bar to DSC

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Newton-Clare, Flt.-Cdr. Edward Thomas, D.S.O., R.F.C. (mil. wing), s. of dr. E. S. Newton-Clare of Calne, b. 1881, W., l. 1898, lost sight of after 1919

Newton-Clare in 1913
Capt. Donald Nicholson M.C., Kings Shropshire Light Infantry 1896 – 1949

Donald Nicholson (DN) was born at Llyaclys near Oswestry (GRO 6a 658)1 the only son of Edward Donald Nicholson (1861 -1936) and his wife Isabella Cudworth (1865 -1952). DN had 4 sisters, Muriel, Effie, Isabel and May. His father Edward was, in 1911, the owner of a granite and limestone quarry near Oswestry and in time his son would follow him into the business as a mining engineer.

DN entered the College in 1912 when he was 16 but was only there for a short time. He joined Wilson House where his housemaster was the Revd. T.N. Smith-Pearse, who was also Headmaster, who retired in 1914. He was placed in the Middle School in Modern Middle Ι form and it seems that he left in 1914 before the end of the school year.

On 1st October 1914 he was appointed as a 2/Lt in 4th Battalion King’s Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI) from Epsom College Contingent Junior Division OTC (LG 28949 p8531) and in October 1915 he was promoted to T/Lt (LG 29361 p11146).

The KSLI regimental website describes the mobilisation of the 4th Battalion, a Territorial Battalion, which in August 1914 was at Shrewsbury before it set sail for India in October. At that early stage of the war the prime function of the Territorial Force was to free regular soldiers for a more active role. The 4th (TF) battalion served in the Far East in Hong Kong, the Andaman Islands, Singapore and Rangoon from 1914-17 before returning via Ceylon and South Africa to be sent to the Western Front in July 1917. However DN reached France before July on the 1st June 19173 where he joined the 7th Battalion KSLI4.

On 20th June 1917 the 7th Battalion war diary records “The Bn. embussed for Berlincourt and arrived at 3.38 am. Billets very poor. Major F Johnston rejoined Bn. and 2/Lt D Nicholson joined on 1st apt.” On the 13th July he was promoted to lieutenant back dated to the 1st June (LG 31079 p6984) and by the end of the month DN and the battalion were in the line at Velu moving by September to Ypres. They soon moved on to Watou and on the 22nd September the diary records that Lt Colonel KHL Arnott M.C., the Commanding Officer, together with Lt. Bush and Lt. Nicholson “reconnoitred the line”. On the 25th “The Bn. entrained on the light railway for Ypres and then marched to assembly positions tapped out by Lt. Bush and Lt. Nicholson”4.

They were immediately involved in heavy fighting at Brandhock and on 30th September were moved back into reserve having lost 11 officers and 250 OR’s, killed, wounded or missing. In November 1917 the 3rd Army attacked on a 6 mile front at Bapaume and Cambrai with the battalion initially “standing by” before...
moving into the line at Mory taking casualties constantly.

On 10th December DN took command of a Coy. and was promoted to A/Captain (LG 30587 p3549) being soon promoted again to T/Capt. (LG 30843 p9542). By January the 7th KSLI were in the line again at Croisilles and the diary noted “The trenches in the front line were in very bad condition”, probably a euphemism for the fact that they had been shelled to pieces. They remained in and out of the line at Croisilles throughout January and February before moving to Menin where they were again involved in severe fighting. In the week of 21st to 28th March 1918, 4 officers were killed and 12 wounded and 47 OR’s died with 331 wounded.

On the 12th April 1918 the 7th Battalion KSLI was ordered to take over in the front line at Hamel Switch near Bethune and the battle of Hazebrouck, part of the 4th Battle of Ypres, began. Fighting with the Australians the Allies were in deep trouble as the enemy made its final attempts to regain the initiative with their ‘Spring Offensive’ to reach the Channel ports. The war diary records at “2.30pm Captain Nicholson commanding ‘D’ Company which was west of Locon road, received written orders from G.O.C. 166th Brigade, handed to him by the staff Captain, 166th Brigade to move up to reinforce 2nd Royal Scots and to hold Pont Tournant – Locon road so as to protect the left flank”.

“3.00pm. Captain Nicholson moved his Company forward and after reconnaissance of the ground with Captain Robinson, who had been sent forward from Battalion HQ to ascertain the situation, first of all established a strong Post at Pont Tournant with orders to hold the bridge at all costs.”

A fierce battle ensued and eventually the bridge was blown up and enemy prisoners and various pieces of ordnance were captured. After this the battalion was relieved and retired to billets at Oblinghem. However the result was not achieved without casualties, 1 officer being killed and 1 wounded along with 5 OR’s killed, 22 wounded and 1 missing. For his courageous leadership in this attack DN was awarded the Military Cross (LG 30813 p8829. 23 July 1918).

“Lt. (A./Capt.) Donald Nicholson, Shrops L.I. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company through heavy gas and H.E. barrage, and got it into position. Later, he repulsed a determined attack, which lasted for two hours. When holding the reserve line, the front line was penetrated. He withstood the enemy attack for several hours, and when compelled to withdraw, rallied his men in a sunken road and made another stand.”

Part of a type written appendix to the war diary written by the Commanding officer the day after the event provides more detail of the attack.

“The Battalion did not take an active part in the operations until 1 Coy. [‘D’ Coy. commanded by DN] was moved forward at 2.45pm, on 12th inst. This Coy. performed some very good work. Although at some time its left flank was completely exposed it held fast to its position and on another occasion when the enemy got round the flanks of some of its Posts there was no thought of retiring, the centre of the Coy. being only withdrawn to take up a better position. The Coy. maintained communication with the 166th Brigade on the right throughout, except for a short period when the enemy attempted to rush the Post at Pont Tournant and drive the garrison across the bridge. This Post was reoccupied almost immediately afterwards. It also secured prisoners on 3 successive nights and thus obtained valuable information. The other Coys. carried out their tasks successfully.”

However on the 20th May 1918 another heavy attack by the enemy was made on the Battalion. “Heavy bombardment of Hinges Hill by the enemy with ‘Yellow Cross’ gas shells. Consequence 9 Officers and 241 OR’s evacuated to CCS”. One of the officers was Capt. D. Nicholson M.C. This was the last mention of DN in the war diary and it seems he may not have returned to the front. The 7th Battalion suffered more casualties in WW1 than any other KSLI battalion, with 1048 killed in action or died during the war. It earned more Battle Honours than any other KSLI battalion. It was disbanded in Shrewsbury in June 1919.

It seems that DN may have returned to the 4th Battalion for a short while before in March 1919 the London Gazette recorded that “Lt D. Nicholson, M.C.(4th Bn T.F.) relinquishes the Temp rank of Capt. on ceasing to be employed with a Serv. Bn. 29th December 1918” (LG 31226 p3407). In due course he received the British War and Victory medals in addition to his Military Cross. He returned to the family business as a mining engineer and in December 1925 in Oswestry Rural (GRO Marriage 6a 1417)1 he married Mary Wynn Minshall (1897-1978), the daughter of a local solicitor. As far as is known there were no children of the marriage.

DN’s father died in 1936 leaving a considerable fortune of £68,000 (4.5 million in 2016) to his widow and
only son, DN. It is possible that DN maintained some contact with the TA after the Great War or re-joined at the beginning of WW2. In March 1940 a Capt. Donald Nicholson M.C. (7691) was commissioned in the Royal Engineers as a lieutenant (LG 34905 p4590). It is quite possible that this was DN and that as a mining engineer his services were more valuable to the military as an engineer than as an infantry officer. However in November 1940 Lt. D. Nicholson M.C. (7691) resigned his commission on grounds of ill health (LG 35004 p6854). Unfortunately his officer’s long number appears to be lost but the number (7691) is not associated with any other record of this name5.


Sources:
Ancestry
Epsom College Registers 1855 – 1954 & Yellow Books
1 GRO – General Registry Office.
2 www.shropshireregimentalmuseum.co.uk
3 Medal Roll Index
4 TNA - The National Archive WO 95 1421/4 KSLI 7th Battalion 8 Inf. Bde. 3rd Divn.
5 TNA WO 338 Long numbers.

Charles S Gallannaugh November 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Epsom College Register 1855-1954</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicholson, Capt. Donald M.C. and bar, Shrops. L.I., s. of E. D. Nicholson, company director, of Oswestry, b. 1896, W., l. 1914, d. 1949</td>
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Nicolson, Capt. Donald Oliver
Birth Year:  1897
Entered Epsom College:  1909
Regiment: Capt. I.A.
House:  HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

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<th>Epsom College Register 1855-1954</th>
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<tr>
<td>Norman, Frank, brother of H. N. (1884), b. 1880, D.B. and G., l. 1896, civil engineer, A.M.I.C.E., T/Lt. R.E. 1914-18; Copthorne, 80 Walton Street, Tadworth-on-the-Hill</td>
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Norman, Frank
Birth Year:  1880
Entered Epsom College:  1890
Regiment: T/Lt. R.E. 1914-18
House:  HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

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Norman, Guy Harsant
Birth Year:  1894
Entered Epsom College:  1894
Regiment: T/Lt. R.G.A. 1914-19
House:  HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

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House:  HMM?  
Rank:  
Researcher:  

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norman, Maj. Alexander Leigh

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Northants Regt.
House: P
Rank: Pte

Decorations:

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Thomas North was born in Armagh, Ireland on 10 January 1897, the eldest son of Thomas North, FRCSI, and Maria Lorraine nee Bell, his wife. His parents had married in Cumberland in 1893. Thomas’s father practised medicine in New Southgate, and at 120 Harley Street, London. Thomas’s mother had been born in India.

In the 1901 census the family was living at 16 Friern Barnet Road, New Southgate. Thomas’s father was a 33 year old physician and surgeon, his mother was aged 30. Four year old Thomas had an older sister Muriel aged 5 and a younger brother Douglas Cecil aged 1. The family employed 2 servants. The family had lived in various locations – Muriel had been born in Cumberland, Thomas in Ireland and Douglas in Middlesex.

By 1911 Thomas had another sister Eileen aged 8. His parents were still living in the 12 roomed house at 16 Friern Barnet Road, New Southgate. They had been married for 17 years and had four children all of whom were still living. They employed a parlour maid and a cook.

Thomson had entered Epsom College’s Lower School on 16 September 1909 in Fayer House in the Lower III form. He progressed to Propert House in the Upper School. He was generally an able though unexceptional student. In June 1914 he achieved a second class pass in the London Matriculation Exam, and the following year passed the first exam toward a medical degree at London University and won the Watts Prize for scientific studies. His brother Douglas also attended Epsom College and was head prefect.

After leaving school in July 1915 he went to St Mary’s Hospital to study medicine but after a month enlisted on 10 Nov 1915 aged 19 years 10 months. He gave his next of kin as his father of 16 Friern Barnett rd, New Southgate. Thomas was only 5ft 4ins tall, weighed 8st 4lbs, had a 30in chest which could expand to 34ins. He had 6/6 vision in both eyes. His Medical on 8 Nov found him fit to serve with Territorial force.

He was posted and embodied on 11 Nov 1915 and served at home until 6 Mar 1916. He embarked for France at Southampton on 7 Mar 1916 and joined 1 Bn on 17 Mar. He was admitted to hospital 16 April 1916 with influenza and impetigo but was able to rejoin his battalion on 24 April. He was wounded and reported missing after the first day of the battle of the Somme 1 July. However he was found with wounds to his arm and back and taken to a casualty clearing station. He was transferred to England on H5 Marama 12 July 1916.

It was decided that he would be transferred to Class W (T) Territorial Force Reserve. This meant that he was deemed as being more value to the war effort in civil rather than military employment, but no action would be taken until he had been
discharged from hospital. He was eventually invalided out on 27 Jan 1917. It was noted on his file that he was of very good character. He was awarded Silver War Badge and an army pension of 18s 9d for 6 months, conditional. The badge was awarded to show that he had served and been honourably discharged because of his wounds. It had been the habit of some women to present a white feather to seemingly able bodied men who were not wearing uniform. He was later awarded British War and Victory medals. In May 1917 he returned to medicine and, studied at London University where he attained MB, BS, MRCS 28 July 1921; LRCP 1921, FRCS 13 Dec 1923; and MB BS Lond Hons, distinguished in midwifery in 1922. He did a six month tour as a houseman and was Junior Clinical Assistant in the Ophthalmic Department, House Surgeon to In- and Out-patients, and Resident Anaesthetist at St Mary’s. But the war had left him physically weak so he accepted a post as surgeon on SS Leicestershire. He also served in 14 bn London Defence Regiment from 10 April 1921 until 14 July 1921.

He died from the after-effects of his wounds on 31 Oct 1924, on board the Leicestershire. The ship was homeward bound from Rangoon. Thomas had been dancing until midnight and then sat in his cabin chatting with fellow officers. He felt unwell and went to his surgery where he collapsed and was later found dead on the floor. His body was taken ashore at Marseilles where an inquest concluded that he had died from natural causes. His remains were placed in a lead lined coffin and taken out to sea on SS Herefordshire, another ship of the Bibby line. He was committed to the sea. However, there was a macabre twist to his story as his coffin was washed up on a Sicilian beach a thousand miles away. He was then buried on land and his father commented that he was rather glad because he could visit his son’s grave.

Sources
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Aberdeen Journal 17 Mar 1925
Army Pension records
Medal Index cards
Plarr’s Lives of the Fellows (RCS) on-line

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Epsom College Register 1855-1954</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North, Thomas Stanley, s. of dr. Thomas North of Southgate, b. 1897, L.S. and P., Watts Pr., l. 1915, St. Mary’s Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Pte. London Scottish, brother of D. C. N. (1911), d. 1924 as a result of war wounds</td>
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North, Douglas Cecil

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<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>HMM?</th>
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<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>T/Lt. R.F.C. 1917-18</td>
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Nunn, Gerald

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<th>Birth Year</th>
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<th>Regiment</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>HMM?</th>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Surg. Capt. R.N.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

OE Doctors

Nunn, Gerald (1879- ?).
Epsom College: 1891-1897
Nuttall, Robert Peel
- Birth Year: 1895
- Entered Epsom College: 1911
- Died: 23/10/1918
- Buried: Awoingt British Cemetery
- Decorations: C.B.E.
- Unit: Royal Fusiliers
- Reference: 1.B.10
- Blackburn War Memorial

Nuttall, Robert Peel
- Birth Year: 1895
- Entered Epsom College: 1911
- Died: 23/10/1918
- Buried: Awoingt British Cemetery
- Decorations: C.B.E.
- Unit: Royal Fusiliers
- Reference: 1.B.10
- Blackburn War Memorial

Oakshott, Maj.-Gen. John Field Fraser
- Birth Year: 1899
- Entered Epsom College: 1911
- Died: 23/10/1918
- Buried: Awoingt British Cemetery
- Decorations: C.B.E.
- Unit: Royal Fusiliers
- Reference: 1.B.10
- Blackburn War Memorial

Oakshott, Maj.-Gen. John Field Fraser
- Birth Year: 1899
- Entered Epsom College: 1911
- Died: 23/10/1918
- Buried: Awoingt British Cemetery
- Decorations: C.B.E.
- Unit: Royal Fusiliers
- Reference: 1.B.10
- Blackburn War Memorial

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Major-General John Field Fraser Oakshott C.B., C.B.E., 1899 – 1957

John Field Fraser Oakshott (JFFO) was the eldest son of four children born to Dr Walter Field Oakshott and his wife Kathleen Mable formerly Fraser. His father, who was born in London in 1863, the son of a Dr John Oakshott and his wife Catherine Field, took up medical practice at Lydenburg in the Transvaal and the children were born there. However Walter Oakshott died in South Africa in 1905 and his young widow brought the family back to England. Walter F Oakshott had an older brother John James who also became a doctor and was at Epsom College from 1878 until 1879.

Both JFFO and his younger brother Walter Fraser (1903 -1987) were to lead distinguished lives. Walter went to Tonbridge School where he became head boy going on with an exhibition to Balliol College Oxford. Later he became High Master of St Paul’s School and Headmaster of Winchester. From 1953 until 1972 he was Rector of Lincoln College Oxford serving as Vice Chancellor of Oxford University from 1962 to 1964. Sir Walter Oakshott died at his home in Eynsham in 1987 his wife having pre-deceased him2.

The widowed mother of JFFO sent him to Epsom College in 1911, in the footsteps of his uncle, where he became a distinguished scholar. He entered Fayrer House in the Lower School and in due course went on to Propert being placed in his first term in the Upper IV form where he came 9th of 19 boys at the end of the year. In 1913 on the classical side he was top of the form and won the Form Prize and Junior essay Prize. Moving to the Lower Vth in 1914 he passed his School Certificate coming 5th in class. In the next year in the Sixth Form, under the tutelage of the Headmaster, he came 1st in Class, passed Higher School Certificate and won the Martin Prize for Classics and the Latin Prose Prize.

A new Class appears to have been created in response to the war. Known as the Army Class in the Upper School a special fee of 3 guineas a term was charged. JFO joined this class for his last 2 years at the College. He became a school prefect, played in the Rugby XV and cricket for the 2nd X1 leaving school in the summer of 1917 for the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

He was commissioned as a 2/Lt in the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) in September 1918 (LG 30907 p11159) and went to France landing there on 4th October 1918 (Medal Roll Index). However it seems that he may have been wounded almost immediately in these closing months of the war as he returned from France on 20th October (Army List) although details of his injuries have not been found. For much of the next three years he was placed on half pay on the active list although he was promoted to Lieutenant in March 1920 (LG 31921 p 6018) and served as an Inspector of Dangerous Buildings at Woolwich Arsenal on a temporary basis between September 1920 and March 1921. He was eventually restored to the establishment in the Royal Artillery (RA) on full pay from 8th Nov 1921 (LG 32536 p 9767). He was awarded the Victory and British War Medals.
In March 1922 he married Edith Elaine Mary Criddle the daughter of a solicitor in Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne. They were to have five daughters, Edith living to reach the age of 96 before she died in 1994 in Camden London.

In 1924 JFO moved from the RA to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) as an ordnance officer 4th Class (LG 32944 p 4607) and in 1927 was promoted to Captain. By 1937 he was Deputy Assistant Director of Ordinance Services (DADOS) at the War Office with the rank of Lt/Col and in the Birthday Honours in 1941 he became O.B.E. (LG 35204 p 3739).

His career continued to the very highest level in the RAOC. By 1948 he had been granted the honour of C.B.E. and held the rank of Colonel. In April 1950 as a T/Brigadier he was appointed Aide De Camps to the King (LG 39039 p 5077) and in September 1951 his rank was made substantive. For a short while after the death of King George V he was ADC to the Queen but he relinquished this appointment in November 1953 on being promoted to the substantive rank of Major-General (LG 40021 p 6271). He was Director of Middle east Land Forces from 19533 and in the Birthday Honours of June 1954 he was appointed CB (LG 40188 p 359). He retired in August 1956 but held reserve liability and in January 1957 was appointed Colonel Commandant of the RAOC (LG 40965 p 84). Sadly he was to die not long after this last appointment on 4th October 1957 at his home near Wallingford in Berkshire, age 58 (GRO 6a 173).

Sources:
Gro
Epsom College Register 1855 – 1924
Epsom College Register 1855 – 1954
London Gazette (LG)
The National Archives (TNA)
Ancestry: Medal Roll Index
1Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
2The Eynsham Record No. 27. 2010
3Who Was Who 2015

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**Oates, Frank Maylor**

Birth Year: 1904

Entered Epsom College: 1904

Regiment: T/Lt. R.E. 1914-18

Decorations: M.B.E.

House: HMM?

Rank

Researcher:

---

**O'Connell, Geoffrey Bryan**

Birth Year: 1906

Entered Epsom College: 1906

Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.S.C. and Hants Regt. 1914-18

Decorations: 

House: HMM?

Rank

Researcher:

---

**O'Connell, John Forbes**

Birth Year: 1889

Entered Epsom College: 1902

Regiment: Lieut. R.A.M.C. Killed in action, 1914

Decorations: 

House: F

Rank Lt
O'Connell, John Forbes
Died 20/09/14 aged 25
Unit RAMC
Buried Vendresse Brit Cem, France
Reference: I. E. 10

Elizabeth Manterfield

O'CONNELL John Forbes Lieut, RAMC attt to 2nd Highland Light Infantry
Killed: 20 Sept 1914

John was born on 18 Feb 1889 at Neemuch India where his father David Valentine O' Connell was serving as a surgeon with the Royal Army Medical Corps. John came from a strong military, medical heritage for his great-grandfather, Dr James Forbes, had been Inspector-General of the Forces who had served with distinction in the Peninsular War and founded the Army Medical Mess at Fort Petre, Chatham.

In the 1901 census John was boarding at The Grange Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. He is also known to have attended Cheltenham Grammar School.

In 1902 he won an entrance scholarship to Epsom College and started on 24 September in Forest House.

In 1903 he finished in fifth place out of 24 students, third out of 24 in Shell form, in 1904, and 20th out of 22 in the Matriculation form in 1905. In 1906 he came sixth out of 20 boys in the Modern Fifth Form and gained a Second Division pass in the London Matriculation exam. He also became a sub-prefect. He passed Part 1 of the Preliminary Scientific Examination in July1907. He completed the year in tenth place out of 15 boys in Division B of the Modern Sixth form. He was a school prefect in his final year and Head of House.

He was an ardent Rugby footballer. In 1905 he played in the 2nd XV and was described in the Epsomian as playing a dashing game. Many contemporary OEs remembered the effective gallop with which he covered the field: the critique assessed him to be good in defence and attack, though he must develop his pace. He went on to gain his First XV cap in the 1906-07 season. He also played cricket for the school. His critique in the Epsomian in July 1906 said that he was not a polished batsman, having hardly a single stroke yet he made runs. He could be very erratic as a bowler but was a fair fielder.

On leaving school he proceeded to study medicine at St Mary’s Hospital, London.

He graduated with MB, and BS Univ of London in 1912. He continued his enthusiasm for rugby and played for St Mary’s hospital and was twice captain of his hospital team. He also played for the London Welsh and London Irish and was vice-captain of the London Welsh in 1913.

After qualifying he served as House Physician at St Mary’s for six months and then took up a post as assistant resident Medical Officer at Hanwell Asylum for nearly six months.

John followed the family tradition of an army career and applied to the RAMC. He came fifth in the entrance exam, gaining his commission on 24 Jan 1913. He was stationed at Connaught Hospital, Aldershot until he joined 2nd Bn Highland Light Infantry, part of 5th Brigade, 2nd Divisions as Medical Officer (MO).

He married Gladys Arlow in 1914 (GRO Ref Jun 1914 St Geo Hanover Sq 1a 1114).

He arrived in France with the British Expeditionary Force on 14 August, where his battalion served south of Mons, but had to retreat across the Marne to north of Chaumes.

On 6 September they advanced to the Aisne crossing the river at Chavonne on the 13 September 1914. On the morning of the 19 September the Battalion was in support to the other units in the 5th Brigade in the village of Moussy. On the 20 September the enemy attacked on the Beaune Spur.

During the Battle of the Aisne on 20 Sept 1914, Lieutenant James Hamilton Fergusson was shot in the trenches, receiving a rifle bullet in his head. Although under heavy fire, John went to his assistance in his role as MO and was himself shot dead. His death was announced in the Times.

A fellow officer, TN Powell, wrote the following letter to John’s brother on 12 Dec 1914 with an account of the work of John performed on the front line.

Dear O’Connell,

I am only too pleased to tell you anything I can about your brother, as he was quite one of ours, and in all your life you can never have a prouder boast than that you were his brother.

As I expect you know, we went out on 13th August, and our first show was at Fanieve, near Mons, where he once came to notice. He established his dressing station in a little cottage quite in the open, about 200 yards behind my firing line... He personally went into the trench and helped to carry out the wounded, though the Germans had the range to a T, and were raining shells on it. Then they turned on to his cottage, and knocked it to bits, and again he carried everyone out, not losing a single man. When the order came to retire, he stayed on behind the rearguard, though the Germans were within 600yards, because he had two men to tie up.

During the retreat we were lucky in that we had no very severe fighting, but your brother had the worst of it because he had to do with the footsore and sick who could not keep up, so again he was usually behind the rearguard; but he always kept cheery, when cheerfulness was worth far more than pluck. In the advance he was with us in the firing line at the Vesle, the Ourcq and the Marne.

After we crossed the Aisne, he again particularly distinguished himself. We crossed on a Sunday; next morning the 1st Division attacked, but did not get home: we (2nd Division) were launched about 5pm, and stormed the enemy's position before dark, We crossed their position and were digging in for all we were worth, when about 11pm we got word that the 3rd Division, on
our left, had been driven back, and that we must give up what we had won and go back to a little hill above the river, as we were unsupported. I think this was the most appalling sight I saw, or rather felt in the war: black night and pelting rain and wind, some 3,000 dead and wounded Germans lying thick, and the wounded begging for help. We could do nothing, as our job was to get back and dig in, in line with the 1st and 3rd Division, before dawn. But your brother insisted on staying out there to do what he could for the enemy. It was almost certain death to stay out there, but he remained there among them for 6 hours and did not rejoin us till 8am next day. By that time my company was suffering rather badly: we had orders to hold a hill “at all costs”, and had not had time to dig in, with the result that I lost 41 men before noon. Your brother, without waiting for food or sleep, came up to look after them and stayed there for two days, while we hung on.

The day I was ‘downed’ one of my subalterns (Fergusson) was knocked out within 300 yards in a ‘sort of trench’: as I crawled back I saw he was not quite dead, though unconscious and evidently dying. As I was being tied up I mentioned this to your brother, and he at once insisted on going to see if he could do anything for him, although it was within very close range of a well constructed German trench, and while doing this he was killed by a rifle bullet through the head. He was buried in the grave as Fergusson and McKenzie who also fell that day and close by Gibson, Craig, McDonald and Powell who had dropped three days before, together with about 50 of our NCOs and men.

I hope I have not over-written about him, but we all felt that what was ours is yours, I also hope that we may meet some day."

Another tribute reproduced in The Great War and the RAMC by FS Brereton stated that: “John was a very general favourite with everyone who knew him, his frank and generous nature and sunny disposition gaining him friends wherever he went. He was a genial, high-spirited companion, who would stand by his friends through thick and thin. It was in faithful attendance on a brother officer that he met his death.

An old school friend of his at Epsom wrote to his father on hearing of his death: For several years at Epsom and afterwards it was my privilege to know him intimately, and I shall always look back upon his friendship as one of the most delightful and valued possessions of my life. None who knew him could have failed to respect his frank and generous nature, or to love him for his warm and genial sentiments. It is indeed sad that so promising a life should so soon be cut off, and I am sure that all who had the honour of his friendship will suffer an irreparable loss. The loss to your of so splendid and gallant a son must be a great blow, but you have the consolation of knowing that he died nobly in the service of his country, unselfishly laying down his life that others through him might live-a fine end to a fine life. I shall always remember him as a genial, kind-hearted comrade-one of the very best.

Colonel Wolfe Murray commanding the Highland LI in announcing the sad news of his death to his wife to whom he was married only a few months writes: He was shot dead in the trenches while attending Lieut Ferguson HLI who had been seriously wounded and who himself died later in the day. We all feel his loss most acutely. He performed his duties as a medical officer most efficiently and was a general favourite with us all. I have never met anyone pluckier: he was just as cool under fire as he was at any other time and the act which cost him his life was characteristic of him.

John now lies in Vendresse British Cemetery I.E.10, Aisne, France. This cemetery was created after the armistice with the concentration of graves from other smaller cemeteries in the area. He is remembered on the Cheltenham Grammar School memorial and on the Masonic Roll of Honour having been a member of the Sancta Maria Lodge, number 2682 as well as the Epsom College memorial. Administration of his estate valued at £410 was granted to Gladys Muriel O’Connell, his widow. He was described as of Atherstone, South Farnborough, Hampshire. He was awarded the 1914 Star.

At the time of John’s death, his father was living at the Knowle, West Moors, Dorset. His brother Geoffery Bryan O’Connell, who was also educated at Epsom College 1906-10, served as a private with the Canadian Forces and his father, who had retired from the army in February 1913 was recalled to serve in November 1914. John’s widow married Harold Ivon Jones in 1915.

Sources
Epsom Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Medal Index card
Medical register 1887
The Great War and the RAMC.FS Brereton
The British Medical Journal 7 Oct 1914
Times 28 Sept 1914 and 1 Oct 1914.
Oldham, Maj. Thomas Vicars

Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: Maj. R.A.M.C.
House: HMM?
Rank:
Researcher:

Oliver, Charles Pye

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: T/Lt. R.W. Kent Regt. 1916-18
House: HMM?
Rank:
Researcher:
<table>
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<td>Owen, Lionel Everard</td>
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<td>T/Lt. R.A. 1915-18</td>
<td>1886</td>
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Owen, Norman Howell


Owen, Lionel Everard, brother of the above, b. 1890, P., l. 1906, Guy's Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A. 1915-18, d. 1940

Norman was born on 24 January 1888 at West Street, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, (GRO Ref Mar 1888 Haverfordwest 11a 1035) the son of John Morgan Owen and his wife Margaret Elizabeth nee Thomas. His parents had married in 1883 (GRO Ref: Sept 1883 Narberth 11a 1181).

In the 1891 census the family was living at West Street, Fishguard. This was probably the family home, Bryn-y-Mor. Three year old Norman had three brothers George William aged 6, John Howard 5, and Lionel Everard 14 months. His father was a 32 year old general medical practitioner who had trained at Guy's hospital in London. His mother was also 32.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Bryn-y-mor in the vicinity of West Street, Fishguard. 13 year old Norman was at home with his parents but his three brothers were not.

Dr Owen enrolled Norman, John and Lionel to start at Epsom College on 23 Jan 1902. Norman started in the Lower School in B house and then progressed to Granville House in the Upper School. He did well at school, coming second out of 20 boys in the Lower Third form in July 1902. He was then put up a form into the Lower fourth form where he managed to come 7th out of 24 boys and was awarded a form prize. He served in the College OTC. Lionel could speak Welsh and English so it is likely that Norman could too. He left the College at Christmas 1904.

1911 the family was still living in the 13-roomed Bryn-y-Mor, Fishguard. Father a medical practitioner. The census confirmed that Norman’s parents had had 4 children, all of whom were still living. Norman was working as a bank clerk. The family employed one servant.

Norman applied for a temporary commission in the Regular Army at Camberley on 18 Aug 1914. He had good experience of cross country riding and could shoot well. He wanted to serve in the Army Service Corps if possible. The headmaster of Margate College vouched that he had the educational qualifications required. He was 66ins tall, had a 33in chest with 2½in expansion. He weighed 127lbs, had normal hearing and vision, good teeth, and was fit. He gave his father as his next of kin but also provided details of his aunt Mrs George Thomas Parke Whitland RSO Carmarthenshire as a second next of kin.

He obtained a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Service Corps on 8 Feb 1915 and was posted to 14 Division Rushmoor Camp, Aldershot. He went to France with the British Expeditionary Force 14 Div No 2 Coy(101) on 14 May 1915.

He was promoted to Captain 1 April 1917 (LG 14 Apr 17). He came home on leave on 23 Dec 1917 and was posted to No 2 Infantry School of Instruction for Officers Elstow Bedfordshire on 12 Jan 1918.

In Mar 1918 he developed femoral hernia, a condition where fatty tissue or a part of the bowel pokes through into the groin, at the top of the inner thigh. This had been caused by the strain of military drill whilst on active service. It perforated on 28 Mar and had to be operated. Although the wound healed and the scar was sound, he could only be employed on light duty. He returned to duty 24 May 1918 and was instructed to report to OC 5bn Rifle Brigade, Minster on Sea. He was still 40% disabled but he was not considered to have a permanent disability. He was attached to 53 KRRC on 5 June 1918.

He was passed as Fit for General Service on 5 July 1918. However on 2 Aug the hernia renewed. On 7 Oct 1918 a Medical Board found him to be unfit A, B and C1 (ie marching or standing on general service or walking 5 miles) and signed him off for two months. Norman was admitted to hospital on 17 Oct 1918 and needed a radical operation on 21 Oct 1918. He remained in an officers’ convalescent hospital for latter part of 1918. The operation was considered to be successful if no unnecessary strain placed upon it too early. Although the hernia was small, a truss did not always retain it and his sick leave had to be extended to 15 Jan 1919. He rejoined his regiment on 16 Jan 1919 but had to be readmitted on 7 Feb 1919. He died of pneumonia following influenza on 1 Mar 1919 at Broadway Military hospital, Sheerness, Kent. His body was transported home so that he could be buried in Fishguard Cemetery. His grave is marked with a small granite cross on a triple plinth, not a CWGC Portland stone headstone. He is also remembered on the Fishguard Cenotaph and on the St Mary’s Fishguard memorial.
Norman served a total of 3 years and 11 months; 2 yrs 7 months were spent abroad and 17 months at home. Probate granted on 30 Apr 1919 to his father who was living at The Grange, Wooden, Saundersfoot. His estate was valued at £1003 8s 10d and was to be divided between his brothers. Father complained to the War Office about the delay in receiving the gratuities due to the family. He explained that one of Norman’s brothers was planning to leave the district and required the money for a special purpose. I have not been able to find a record of the medals he was awarded.

Sources
Birth certificate
British Medical Journal Mar 1919
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
Epsom College Register printed and m/s (states Propert House)
Epsom College Yellow Book (states Granville House. Same as older brother).
Free BMD
London Gazette 22 Jan 1916, 14 Apr 1917
TNA file WO 339/19592 Long number 38077
Page, Guy Frederick, s. of dr. G. S. Page of Bristol, b. 1887, G., 181903, plantation manager in Ashanti, T/Sub-Lt. R.N.R. 1915-18

Page, Lionel, brother of the above, b. 1889, G., l. 1907, Bristol Roy. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18, d. 1929

Paget, Alfred Paul Barrow, M.C., formerly Lieut. R.G.A., s. of dr. A. J. M. Paget of British Somaliland, b. 1897, L.S. and C., l. 1915, B’ham U., surveyor, Perth Water Supply; Glenbrook, Kelmscott, Western Australia

Pailthorpe, Maj. Duncan Westlake, M.C.*

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

**Major Duncan Westlake Pailthorpe M.C. & Bar, RAMC 1890–1971**

*Major Duncan Westlake Pailthorpe (DWP) was the younger son of John Evans Pailthorpe, at the time of Duncan’s birth a shipping agent in Southampton later to become Clerk to the Southampton Harbour Board (Census 1911), and his wife Evelyn Westlake. The family had lived in South Stoneham, Southampton, for many years where Duncan was born (GRO 8 Dec 1890 2c 56). He had one brother Basil John born in June 1889 who did not go to Epsom College. Basil served in the Royal Navy from 1908 until he was placed on the retired list in September 1916 (LG 29775 p9117) soon after the Battle of Jutland eventually retiring as a Lt Cdr shortly after the war. He sailed to Egypt with his wife in August 1923 but died there in October that year.*

*In 1904 (DWP) was sent by his father, who was then living at 33 Spring Road Southampton, to Epsom College (EC Register). He entered Carr House with an entrance scholarship and was to become a distinguished member of the school. He was placed in the upper fourth form in the middle school and came 3rd out of 20 winning the junior geography prize in his first year. In 1906 in the lower Vth on the classical side although lower in form at 15th he took his school certificate and passed with 2 firsts. The following year he had risen to 5th in form and won the junior Latin prize and become a sub-prefect. In 1908 in the upper Vth, still on the classical side, he passed the higher school certificate and London Matriculation. The following year in the upper 6th he switched to biology passing 1st MB in this subject. That year he was head prefect. During his time at Epsom he played in the Rugby XV and was Captain of Cricket and Hockey.*
In 1909 he left the College to read medicine at Charing Cross Hospital, then situated just off the Strand. He qualified MRCS LRCP and in August 1914 was appointed T/Lt in the RAMC (LG 28873 p6498). Unfortunately his military record which would have been preserved in the National Archive appears to be missing, either destroyed by enemy action in WW2 or still held at the Ministry of Defence. The information which follows was provided by Alan Sim from the Gordon Highlanders Museum to whom we are much indebted:

“On 6 August 1914, 2 days after the outbreak of war, he presented himself to the medical section at the War Office and on 8 August joined the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) at No. 2 General Hospital, Aldershot. He was then sent to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force, arriving at Le Havre on 13 August. He was initially based at No. 2 General Hospital at Le Havre where they treated the wounded from the battle of Le Cateau. During 1915 he served with 23rd Field Ambulance in Flanders. In April 1916 he was moved to Corbie, just west of Amiens where he joined the 2nd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders as Regimental Medical Officer (Medal Roll Index; The Times1). He replaced Captain H. E. Priestly who had been badly wounded at Loos in September 1915, the Battalion having made do with a succession of temporary RMOs in the interim. He was to serve with the 2nd Battalion until the end of the war, seeing action on the Somme, at Passchendaele and in Italy. At the end of 1918 when he was promoted to Major and reassigned, Pailthorpe had become the longest serving officer with the 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders in WW1 other than Quartermaster James Mackie.”

In 1915 the 2nd Battalion was involved in heavy fighting at the Battle of Neuve Chapelle, the Battle of Aubers, the Battle of Festubert, the second action of Givenchy and the battle of Loos2. DWP quickly rose to T/Capt (LG. 1915 29285 p 8827) and in 1916 was awarded his first Military Cross following participation in the Somme offensive. The 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders took part in the Battle of Bazentin and High Wood as well as Delville Wood, the Battle of Guilemont and in the operations on the Ancre, battles regarded as a British success but gained at very high cost. The citation reads as follows:

“T/Captain Duncan Westlake Pailthorpe. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion during operations, when attending the wounded in the open near the firing line under heavy fire of all descriptions, utterly regardless of personal danger”. (LG. Sept 1916 29760 p 9279).

However DWP’s active service on the Western Front was far from over. Throughout 1917 the battalion remained very active taking part in the battles which saw the German retreat to the Hindenburg line and the second battle of Passchendaele. In due course on 21 September 1918 the London Gazette recorded that he had received a Bar to his Military Cross “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty after a raid [on German lines] in collecting wounded under fire, working till daylight. He then went out in broad daylight, established the fact that a man reported missing was dead on the enemy’s wire and brought him in from within ten yards of the wire” (LG 3012 p 328).

In November 1917 the Gordon Highlanders moved to Italy to strengthen the Italian resistance and they eventually ended the war there in November 1918 east of the River Tagliamento2. In February 1918 he had been promoted from T/Capt. to Captain (LG 30526 P 2047) and on 8th November 1918 he was promoted to acting Major (LG 31001 p 13262). His commanding officer later forwarded his name on the nominal roll of officers eligible for the 1914 Star. His eligibility for this, together with his British War and Victory medals would be endorsed later by the officer i/c of the RAMC records at Woking.

He remained in the army after the armistice and in 1926 was promoted to the substantive rank of Major (LG issue 33193 p 5516). He retained his sporting interests and the Cricket Archive records that in 1929 he played for the Europeans (India) against India. The Archive also notes his appearances for Epsom College in 1907 to 1909 where he was captain of the X1. He served in Egypt and India where in 1931 he renewed his acquaintance with the Gordon Highlanders., this time as MO to the 1st Battalion based at Landikotal at the western end of the Khyber Pass4.

In June 1930 he married Barbara Buist Martin the daughter of Colonel Claude Buist Martin C.M.G., RAMC. Commandant of the Royal Army Medical College. His address then was given as the Military Hospital, Parkhurst. Barbara had been born in Blatang Mata, Singapore in 1906 and the marriage took place in at St James’s Church, Southampton, (GRO 2c 270). Their only son, Michael Westlake, was born on 4th May 1931 in Southampton. He later went up to Oxford, where he obtained a Blue for hockey, and went on to become a housemaster and in due course Second Master at Harrow. He died in 1994 in Exmouth, Devon.

In the early 1930’s DWP served in Egypt in Heliopolis3 and it is recorded (Ancestry) that Barbara with her infant son and a nurse travelled back to Southampton from Port Said in June 1932 returning to Egypt in September of that year. In May 1933 she again returned to England to stay at the same address Hazelwood, Midanbury Lane, Southampton, probably that of her parents. On all three occasions she travelled without her husband.

In April 1934 DWP retired from the regular army as a major on retired pay (LG 34046 p 2789). In 1936 he and his wife divorced3 and the following year he is found to be living in London at 84 Gloucester Place W1 where he carried on a business as a boarding house proprietor. However in WW2 he moved from the reserve to the Colours again and went to France as part of a British Expeditionary Force. On this occasion he was Officer Commanding No.1 Ambulance Train and was evacuated from near Dunkirk on 31 May 1940. There then followed a series of home based postings until his demobilisation in 1945. In the post war years he continued his long association with the military, becoming the civilian MO to the Life Guards in Knightsbridge. He then worked variously for the Ministry of Pensions and the War Office where he was responsible for examining recruits for National Service until that ended in 19604.
Eventually he retired to Hampshire living at ‘Hexworthy’ Haig Road, Alresford where he apparently resided for the rest of his life. He died in Alton on December 20th 1971 (GRO 6b 135) aged 81.

Sources:

Ancestry
General Registry Office (GRO)
EC Register 1855-1954
EC Yellow Books
London Gazette (LG)
Medal Roll Index
1The Times –Deaths 2nd Dec 1971
2Forces War Records
3The National Archives J77/3555/243
4Gordon Highlanders Museum, Aberdeen AB 15 7XH

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Palmer, Ambrose Henry

Birth Year: 1869 Entered Epsom College: 1881
Regiment: Staffordshire Yeomanry House: Surg. Ma
Surg Major Died 1917
Buried Gaza?
Reference: National Archives

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Temp

Parent at Barton in Needwood, Burton. Left April 1882.

Palmer, Reginald Faithful

Birth Year: 1896 Entered Epsom College: 1907

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Of all the campaigns which together formed WW1, Gallipoli or the Dardanelles campaign as it was sometimes called, was one of the most brutal, characterised by incompetence and discord at the highest levels and ultimately operational failure. Many Old Epsomians served in that arena one of them being Reginald Faithful Palmer (RFP).

He was born in Lincoln on 16 February 1896 (EC Manuscript Reg 1885-1933) the only son of Edwin Palmer, a doctor and Medical Officer of Health for Lincoln, who died in 1899 age 34 leaving his wife Nelly Palmer a widow at the age of 28. Fortunately she was left well provided for with a £6434 inheritance equivalent to £710,000 in 2013 (GRO Probate records). In the 1901 census she and her son are seen to be living at St Margaret in the Close, Lincoln but in 1905 Nelly Palmer moved to Devon and married a David Howat (GRO Totnes 1905 5b 383). Three years later they had a daughter Rosemary who was born in Paignton. In due course Nelly Howat sent RFP to Epsom College giving her address at the time as 5 Cadwell Rd., Paignton, Devon.
He entered the Lower School in 1909 in Holman House having won a Council Exhibition. A few “Council Exhibitions”, not
exceeding ten in number, were given to deserving cases after examination when there were vacancies. Successful entrants paid reduced fees of £36 15s a year in 1909 (£3,800 in 2013). Later he moved to the main school to Carr (GRO Census 1911). He was a bright scholar and in 1911 in form Modern Side V he came 3rd out of 20 boys. He left in 1912 moving on to London University attending Kensington Engineer College. and in due course he obtained a BSc (Eng) in civil engineering leaving that college in 1914 (TNA AIR 76/386/197).

He had been a member of Epsom College CCF for 3 years and a member of the Officer Training Corps at university and in September 1914 he joined the army (London Gaz. Issue 28910 p 7483). The attestation papers he signed at the time of applying for a short service 3 year commission state that he was appointed as a T/2nd Lieutenant in the 20th Training Battalion Royal Fusiliers (TNA WO 339/13329). This was one of three battalions associated with Epsom, both the town of Epsom and the College, founded in September 1914 from the Public Schools and University Men’s Force. His appointment seems to have been a temporary assignment and soon after he was transferred to the York and Lancaster Regiment being promoted to Lieutenant (WW1 Medal Roll Index Card 1914-1920).

The 6th Service Battalion of the York and Lancs was formed at Pontefract in August 1914 coming under the 32nd Brigade of the 11th (Northern) Division. This was one of three ‘New Army’ Divisions formed at the beginning of the war on the instigation of Field Marshal Lord Kitchener. On the 3rd July 1915 the Division sailed from Liverpool to Gallipoli on the Aquitania and the Empress of Britain reaching the port of Mudros on the island of Lemnos, situated approximately 25 miles from Gallipoli, on the 10 July 1915. Lemnos was the main assembly point and training area for troops arriving for air operations.

These men had never seen action or even been abroad before and on arrival at Gallipoli the C-in-C of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, General Sir Ian Hamilton, was not sure what to do with them. So little ground had been taken at Helles Point and Anzac Cove that there was no room for them to land and it was decided that Suvla Bay further up the west coast of the peninsula with its wide expanse of sandy shore would be the most suitable place. On the 6-7 August the 11th Division arrived at Suvla Bay. RFP landed on the 7th August (TNA Medal Roll Index).

The idea behind the GHQ plan was to land the 11th Division just south of Suvla Bay near a village called Lala Baba following which the troops would storm the heights surrounding the bay. Later in the day on the 7th August this attacking force was to be reinforced by the 10th Division with the aim that the whole force would then be able to join and assist the Anzac forces to the south. The assault required swift action, strong leadership and determination if it was to succeed before the Turks brought in reinforcements to defend the heights. Unfortunately the absence of these three essential components characterised the whole offensive. Matters were not helped by the fact that the elderly General in charge was best known for his ceremonial duties and command of the Guard at the Tower of London and together with poor leadership by many divisional and brigade commanders the attack developed into a shambles akin to the earlier disasters at Helles and Anzac Cove. On the 15th August Lieutenant General Sir FW Stopford and many other senior officers were replaced but by then it was too late. Stalemate followed and in December 1915 the York and Lancs along with the remaining forces on the peninsula were evacuated to Egypt via Imbros. In July 1916 the 6th Battalion moved to France.

However at some stage, probably soon after arriving in Egypt, RFP was transferred from the infantry to the Royal Engineers. It appears he developed a particular interest in all forms of internal combustion engines. On 1 March 1917 he switched again and joined the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) as a Flying Officer being quickly promoted to Flight Lieutenant on 19 April 1917. The military wing of the RFC had been formed in 1912 from the Air Battalion of the Royal Engineers. His record shows he was proficient in the engineering aspects of marine, petrol and crude oil engines and after joining the RFC he flew as a test pilot (TNA AIR 76/386/197). He flew a number of machines including the Avro Curtis, Bristol Fighter, Bristol Scout, Sopwith Scout, Albatross and Sopwith Camel. In spite of the hazards involved in flying these ‘string bags’ as a test pilot, he survived and during the course of the year he was granted a period of leave in the UK.

On 29 November 1917 RFP joined the Palestinian Brigade of the RFC. The Palestine Brigade had been formed on 5 October 1917 following a request from General Allenby, then Commander of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force and a great enthusiast of air power, for an air formation for his planned offensive against the Ottoman Empire in Palestine which in due course was successful.

On 1 April 1918 the RFC joined with the Royal Naval Air Service and became the Royal Air Force. RFP was automatically transferred to the RAF and on the 10th of July he was promoted to Captain. He returned to England in November 1918 leaving the RAF on demobilisation on 23 September 1919.

He married Dorothy Mary Praxter in March 1919 (GRO 1st qtr. 1919 1a 30) and in 1925 they had a son Rex Hugh Faithful Palmer who in 1937 went to Epsom College and later became a vet. He died in Gloucestershire in 1984. RFP was employed by the BBC and a gramophone company presumably when he found himself unemployed in 1919.

During WW2 he served in the RA FVR entering as a Pilot Officer on probation in 1939 (London Gaz 34600 p 1217) shortly afterwards being promoted to Flying Officer. In 1941 he was transferred to the technical branch and promoted to Flight Lieutenant (London Gaz 35241 p 4577). In 1943 he married for a second time, Winifred B Brichtard (GRO 4th qtr 1943 1a 284) and by July 1943 he held the rank of Squadron Leader in the RAFVR Technical Branch eventually retiring after the war as a T/Wing Cdr. He died in Kensington in December 1972 (GRO 4th qtr 1972 Sc p 1948) age 76.

Sources:

Ancestry

WW1 Medal Rolls Index Cards
EC Manuscript Register
EC Yellow Book and Register 1855-1954
GRO
TNA WO 339/13329: AIR 76/386/197
London Gazette
The Long, Long Trail

Palmer, Ronald Campbell

Died 09/04/17 aged 31
Buried Vimy Memorial, France

PALMER Ronald Campbell Pte 148141, Canadian Infantry 78 Bn Manitoba Regiment
Died 9 April 1917

Ronald was born on 26 September 1885 in Newbury (GRO Ref: Dec 1885 Newbury 2c 247) the son of Montague Henry Campbell Palmer and his wife Mary Jane nee Wright. His parents had married in 27 October 1870 (Dec 1870 St Saviour 1d 208). Ronald’s father was a doctor. He had been in practice in the Manor House, London Road, Newbury since 1873 and died on 22 May 1890 of consumption, probably indirectly due to constant work owing to his particular concern for the health of the poor in the area.

In the 1891 census the family was living High House, Oxford Street. Newbury. Four year old Ronald’s widowed mother, Mary Jane, was 43 and he had 6 siblings: Montague Humphrey C aged 19, Edith 18, Percival (registered as Percy), Henry H 15, Christine 10, Gwendoline 7, and Dorothy May aged 2. William Carter, a 35 year old wine merchant, was visiting on the night of the census. Although it must have been a struggle for Mrs Palmer to maintain her large family, they still employed a servant and a cook. Montague was a medical student and the eldest daughter Edith had left school and no doubt had to help her mother. High House had two cottages associated with it and these may have provided an income from rent.

In 1895 Ronald’s brother Montague, a recently qualified medical man, applied for a Foundation Scholarship for him at Epsom College. When Dr Palmer died he left Ronald’s mother and their seven children very poorly provided for. Then to make matters worse, Ronald’s mother and aunt died. One of Ronald’s sisters was provided for but the other siblings were dependent on their brother.

Ronald was awarded a Foundation Scholarship to Epsom College and started in the First Form on 21 September 1897. Montague, who was still living in Newbury, enrolled him. In due course he progressed to Carr House in the Upper School. Ronald struggled academically, usually ending the year amongst the boys in the bottom half his form. In 1901 he came 16th out of 19 boys in the Modern Middle II form and had to take the year again, improving his position to 6th out of 15 students. He does not seem to have taken part in any sports.

In the 1901 census Ronald was recorded at Epsom College erroneously as Reginald Campbell Palmer. He left school in 1902 and in 1904 Montagu died. In 1903 he set off at the age of 17 to seek his fortune in Canada and the 1906 census of Canada records him as living in Marquette, Manitoba working as a hired man for John Templeton. In 1909 and now 24 he moved to Winnipeg. During the next few years he married Emma and worked as a clerk in Shoal Lake, Manitoba. However in August 1915, along with many other young men in his adopted country, he signed an Attestation Paper before a local magistrate on 19 August 1915 in which he agreed to serve in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. The terms of that declaration are of interest: “--------- I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last more than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.” He named his wife Emma as his next of kin. Ronald enlisted as Private 148141 in 78 Battalion (Winnipeg Grenadiers) Canadian Infantry. He was 5ft 6ins tall, with a 31 inch chest which could expand to 36insches, and had a dark complexion with grey eyes and dark hair. He had an oblique scar about an inch long across his forehead above his nose and was physically fit. He was a member of the Presbyterian church. The war was indeed to last more than one year and would lead to his death on the battlefield. Ronald joined the 78th Battalion (Winnipeg Grenadiers) CEF which embarked for England on 20 May 1916 eventually arriving in France on 13 August 1916 where it fought as part of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Canadian Division in Flanders.

On Easter Monday the 9 April 1917 at 5.30 am the Battle of Arras began. The objective of the British attack was for the right wing of the First Army comprising the Canadian Corps to take Vimy Ridge while Allenby’s Third Army would advance on Cambrai to the south east of Arras. After a massive artillery barrage the 1st 2nd and 3rd Canadian Divisions soon achieved their initial objectives but the 4th Division which included the Winnipeg Grenadiers on the left near the village of Givenchy-en-Gohelle and a small hill known as the “Pimple” encountered great trouble. The Canadians were mown down by machine gun...
fire as they left their trenches and it was not until the following days that the Canadians finally broke through and captured Vimy Ridge.

Private Roland Palmer 148141 was among the dead on the first day. The casualty report was stark. “Killed in Action.” He was killed taking part in an attack on enemy positions south of Givenchy-en-Gohelle. No information as to the actual circumstances under which he met his death is available, but the Battalion’s war diary gives more detail of its activities on 8/9 April:

“8 April 1917. Weather fair. Day spent completing the issue of ammunition etc for the attack. The Battalion moved at 9pm to positions on Vimy Ridge preparing to attack. A, B and C Companies were in Vincent Tunnel, D company in a dugout on ridge south of Granby [Avenue, a communication trench] to Vincent. The Battalion had 28 officers and 774 Other Ranks. Only 19 officers went into action.

9 April 1917 Battalion emerged from tunnel and dugout in good order, and formed up. Mine to the left was sprung. Battalion moved almost to our front line before the barrage was laid down. Companies went over in waves and reached the objective...About 8.30am 200 of the enemy came over the ridge in front of Cyclist Trench but were halted by Battalion Lewis guns.”

Battalion casualties for the five days were heavy, approximately 60% and higher for officers. 69 ORs were killed, 258 wounded and 158 missing.

The battle for Vimy Ridge is of great importance to the Canadian people. Overall, three thousand five hundred and ninety eight Canadians died and over seven thousand were wounded. Four Victoria Crosses were awarded. The Canadian National Vimy Memorial which towers above the highest point of the Vimy Ridge today serves as a place of commemoration for Canadian soldiers killed in France in WW1 with no known grave. Unveiled by King Edward VIII in the presence of the French President and veterans in 1936 the memorial was recently restored with re-carving of many of the names. On 9 April 2007 it was rededicated by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 90th anniversary of the battle. Carved into the stone of the Memorial is the name of Roland Campbell Palmer.

He is also remembered on the Shoal Lake memorial, Manitoba.

Sources:
CWGC
Canadian Army service records.
Census 1891 and 1901
Epsom College Register M/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
War diary for 78 Battalion Canadian Infantry

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Parbury, William Frank

<table>
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<tr>
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Decorations: M.C.

Researcher:

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Parbes, Alfred Eric

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Decorations:

Researcher:
### Parkinson, Sir Arthur Charles Cosmo

**Birth Year:** 1884 | **Entered Epsom College:** 1896 | **House:** HMM? | **Decorations:** G.C.M.G, K.C.B.

**Regiment:** T/Maj. King's African Rifles | **Gone:** Died of wounds 1918 | **Rank:** Capt | **Researcher:**

---

**Parks, John Wynand**

**Birth Year:** 1895 | **Entered Epsom College:** 1909 | **House:** G | **Decorations:** MC

**Regiment:** T/Capt. E. Lancs Regt. Died of wounds 1918 | **Unit:** 1st Bn, East Lancs | **Rank:** Capt | **Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parks, John Wynand</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Buried</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/08/19 aged 24</td>
<td>Chislehurst &amp; Sidcup Cem, Kent</td>
<td>A. 1649.</td>
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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


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**John was born on 2 May 1895 in Newcastle, Natal, South Africa, the son of John Parks, and his wife Annie Frances Agnes nee Bell. Although born abroad, his family was English and his father had been a solicitor in Maidstone, Kent. He entered the Lower IV form of Epsom College on 16 September 1909, joining Granville House. His mother of Penenden House, Maidstone, Kent registered him. John was an average performer usually finishing around the middle position of his year. He chose studies in the Modern side of the College, where he would have taken German with more mathematics and science and less Latin. He was a good all-round athlete, having won his School colours for cricket, football, hockey, and gym. He played in the first Cricket XI 1911 and 1912. The critique in the 1911 Epsomian said that he had batted most consistently throughout the season and had improved since last year, but that he had to learn to play with a straight bat. He should become very useful; he was good in the field and could throw well. He also played in the first rugby XV in 1911/12 season. He had been a sergeant in the College’s OTC. He was recorded at the college in the 1911 census. He left school in June 1912 and from September 1912 to June 1913 he worked for Messrs Boswortha Stern before settling for a career in the regular Army. He applied for an Ordinary Cadetship at the Royal Military College on 12 April 1913 when he was living at The Limes, Maidstone, Kent. By that time his father had retired. John entered Sandhurst in 1913 and was gazetted as a Second Lieutenant in the 1st East Lancashire Regiment 15 August 1914. His battalion became a unit of the original BEF. He disembarked in France on 17 Dec 1914 and took part in all the early operations. He had been promoted to Lieutenant on 11 Nov 1914 and became a temporary Captain from 13 June 1915 to 23 September 1915.

By September 1915 he had been promoted to Captain and from November 1915 for a while he was Battalion Adjutant. At the First Battle of the Somme he was attached as Major to the 11th bn of the Regiment and there he won the Military Cross. On 9 April 1917 the British launched its “Spring Offensive” at Arras, attacking the German trenches on Vimy Ridge. Although they initially took some ground it proved difficult to break through the German lines. John was wounded severely in the face 23 April 1917 in the fierce fighting at Gavrelle. He lost his bottom jaw which meant he was unable to chew and could only consume sloppy food. He spent the last two years of his life in hospital unceasingly cheerful and hopeful. He was treated for suppurating wounds at Queens Military Hospital, Frognal, Sidcup 12 Aug 1919. (*Epsomian states 8 Aug but CWGC and gravestone state 12th*)

there is a harrowing account of the last 20 minutes of his life and the efforts the doctors made to save him on file at the

---

**Elizabeth Manterfield**

**PARKS John Wynand MC Major 1 Bn East Lancashire Regt, attached to 8 Bn. Died 12 Aug 1919**
In addition to his wounds there was a long running argument about whether he should be on half-pay whilst in hospital. Had his wounds been less severe, he would have been entitled to 18 months on full pay. His colonel protested that it was “chaotic and illogical” that whilst in hospital he was getting a fixed allowance of 3s a day from which 2s 6d was taken as hospital stoppages. His became a test case to establish that long term officers should be exempt from hospital charges unless they were the result of a preventable illness.

The War Office considered finding him a sedentary role but no employment was available in government service so he continued on half pay.

Epsomian “As a soldier he was thoroughly representative of that glorious Old Army which bore the brunt of the first twelve months of the war.

His letters written during the war breathed a spirit of resolution and confidence, brightened by a sense of the humorous side of things, I admired him above all for his unassuming genuine character, and for his patience in suffering: it was with the deepest regret that I heard of his death”. SRB.

Probate was applied for by his solicitor on 11 March 1920. His effects were valued at £377 12s 5d. His address was given as Boxley House, Wellington, Shropshire.

He is buried in grave A1649 in Chislehurst cemetery. His parents lived at Roy Point, Newcastle, Natal and he is also remembered on the family gravestone in Newcastle Old Cemetery, Kwaszulu-Natal, South Africa


Sources
Census 1911
CWGC
Epsomian
London G azette 14 Aug 1914
Times 15 Aug 1919
TNA WO 339/11130

Parks, John Wynand, M.C., s. of John Parks, solicitor, of Maidstone, b. 1895, G., XV, XI, l. 1912, T/Capt. E. Lancs Regt., brother of C. W. C. P. (1910), d. of wounds 1918

Grave in Newcastle Old Cemetery Kwaszulu-Natal, South Africa

©Chris and Petra Lombard Mar 2009

Parry, James Hales

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Lt. I.M.S. 1915-18
Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Decoration:

Researcher:

### Parsloe, Stanley Heath

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### Parson, Alan Hugh

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### Parsons, Edward Daniell

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

**PARSONS Edward Daniell Lt., RAMC**

**Died of Illness: 21 Sept 1915**

Edward was born at Sunnyside in Wimbledon on 16 November 1877 (GRO Ref: Dec 1877 Kingston 2a 283) the son of Thomas Edward Parsons and his wife Emmeline (Lina) nee Forster. His parents had married in St Cuthbert's church, Darlington, Durham on 8 Sept 1874. (GRO Ref: Sept 1874 Darlington 10a 9). Edward was baptised in Holy Trinity church, Wimbledon on 6 Jan 1878. In the 1881 census the Parsons family was living at Paddock House, Clifton Road, Wimbledon. Two year old Edward’s father was a 35 year old medical practitioner, his mother was 27, and he had two older siblings: Edith Mary aged 5, and Emmeline Isabelle, known as Isabelle, aged 4. The family employed a housemaid, a cook, a nurse and a nursemaid.

In the 1891 census the family was still at Paddock House. Edward had 2 more siblings, Geoffrey Owen aged 11 and Dorothy Elaine aged 9. The family employed 2 housemaids and a cook. Edward and his brother Geoffrey Owen joined Epsom College on 17 September 1891. Edward started in the Upper Third form in Forest House. He showed early promise and was put up into the Lower Fourth form. His subsequent academic career was variable and he hit a low in 1894 when he came 22nd out of 23 boys in shell form. However he pulled himself up to a mid-position the following year and obtained his Lower School Certificate. He left at Easter 1896 to pursue a career in medicine. Whilst at school he had been confirmed on 28 March 1893. Edward’s father died 17 Mar 1897 and left over £9000.
On leaving Epsom College Edward trained at St Thomas's hospital 1897-1903 where he attained his MRCS, LRCP in 1903 and DPH of London Colleges in 1907. After qualifying he served as house surgeon to the Evelina Hospital for Children, as clinical assistant to the Waterloo hospital for Women and Children and then as assistant medical officer for health and bacteriologist to the borough of Croydon. When war broke out he was tuberculosis officer and deputy medical officer of health to the borough of Northampton.

His brother also qualified as a doctor but suffered from heart problems and depression and in 1906 took his own life by stepping in front of a train. The inquest also found that he had a needle inserted into the apex of his heart which had been there for some time.

In the 1911 census Edward was boarding at 24 Langham Place, Northampton where he was working as officer of health to the borough of Northampton. He had a paper on the employment of children outside school hours published in Vol 27 of the Public Health Journal 1913-1914, which highlighted the physical effects on young boys of excessive hours for inadequate pay.

Edward took a temporary commission as lieutenant to the RAMC 2 Nov 1914, and was sent to Alexandria, Egypt on 25 May 1915 but had to be invalided home. He died at the 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth on 20 September 1915 from an illness contracted on active service.

Probate was granted 18 Jan 1916 to his mother to administer his estate was valued at £1210 9s 10d. His address was given as 47 Cottenham Park Road, Wimbledon. His 1915 star, British War and Victory medals were sent to his mother at this address. He is buried in the Wimbledon (Gap Road) Cemetery. Grave B. A. 7

Sources:
Census 1881,1891, 1911
CWGC
Epsom College Register printed
KCL Archives
London Standard 12 Sept 1874
Medal Index card
Probate
Times 23 Sept 1915

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

**Parsons, Edward Daniell, s. of dr. T. E. Parsons of Wimbledon, b. 1877, F. l. 1896, St. Thos. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., T/Lt. R.A.M.C., d. on service 1915**

**Patterson, Russell**

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


**Paxton, Archibald Francis Campbell**

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**Paxton, Archibald F C**

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<td>19</td>
<td>Gordon Dump Cemetery, France</td>
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**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

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Archibald Paxton served with the Middlesex Regiment, leaving the College in 1915 and training briefly at Sandhurst, he was posted to the Somme, where his letters home described the scenes before the battle. Existing in a box in the Archive are his dog tags, his photographs of friends and the teams he played in at school, his letters home and the letters about him by his friends...
PAXTON Archibald Francis Campbell – Temporary 2nd Lieutenant,
4th Bn Middlesex Regiment. (Duke of Cambridge’s Own)
Killed in action 1 July 1916 aged 19.

Archie was born at 0715 on 25 Aug 1896, at 2 Larmouth Terrace in Edinburgh, the son of Captain Archibald Francis Pinkney Paxton of the Indian Army Staff Corps and his wife Lucy Campbell nee Mackay. His parents had married on 5 January 1892 in Inverness. His grandfather, George Paxton, registered his birth on 9 September.

In 1901 4 year old Archie was living with his mother Lucy in George Paxton’s house, St Ann’s, Sheep Lane, Midhurst. George was 80 and a retired Major General in the Madras Army. Archie had three siblings: Nellie aged 8, George A 7, and Llewellyn aged 5 months. Both Archie’s parents had been born in Madras, India and his two older siblings had also been born in Oinlon, India. Llewellyn had been born in Midhurst in Sussex.

From Sept 1904 until April 1907 Archie was educated at Warden House School, Upper Deal. This was an Anglican prep school for boys.

Archie entered Epsom College’s Lower School Fayrer House in April 1907. At the time that his mother enrolled him, they were living at Brooklands in Havant.

He started in the Lower Third form and at the end of the summer term came fifth out of 23 boys. He skipped the Upper Third and went into the Lower Fourth Form, Carr House in the Upper School. He finished the year in 19th position out of 23 boys. The following year he came 15th out of 23 boys in the Middle Fourth and then 8th out of 24 boys in the Upper Fourth. In 1911 he finished in 14th place out of 24 boys in Shell form and passed his Lower School certificate achieving a first class pass in Latin. In 1912 he came 18th out of 22 boys in the Lower Fifth Form. He spent his last year in the Upper Fifth finishing in 8th place out of 9 boys. He was made a Prefect.

He played in the College’s cricket team. His critique in The Epsomian described him as “A good bat who can generally be relied upon to make runs. Fair field, and sometimes a useful change bowler.” In 1914 he was only four runs short of having the highest batting average for the year. He also played hockey, and became captain of the hockey team. In a letter to his brother Llewellyn he said he was looking forward to cycling with him in the holidays.

He had a thrifty streak because he was surprised and pleased when he found that the Post Office had failed to frank the stamp on his brother’s letter to him and he used it on his reply.

Archie was recorded at Epsom College in the 1911 census. His parents were staying in a hotel in Eastbourne. They had been married 19 years and had 5 children all of whom were still living.

Archie had set his heart on becoming a doctor but this would be a challenge for him. His housemaster, HF Lee, had expressed doubts in a letter to Archie’s parents in 1911 “He is so self-distrustful and loses heart very easily but is not idle or really slack about it. Medicine would not be a real possibility for him.” The new headmaster in Mar 1915, Rev Barton, suggested that Archie should join the Arm and so Archie left Epsom College in April 1915.

He had a Medical Board on 13 April 1915 when he was 18 years old. He was 5ft 9ins tall, weighed 129lbs, had good hearing and teeth, 6/6 vision and normal colour vision. His chest measured 32 ins which expanded to 35 ins. This was ½in under the required standard but the Board considered he would develop.

He was ordered to join up as a Gentleman Cadet on 14 May 1915. He had not achieved a high rank in the OTC although he had passed his Certificate A which entitled him to enlist directly as an officer.

He joined B Company at the Royal Military College (RMC) at Sandhurst where he lived at 7 The Terrace. After a short basic training he passed out on 20 October 1915 and was gazetted as a 2nd Lieutenant in 6 Bn Middlesex Regiment.

Archie was originally posted to the Depot at Gillingham before joining 4th Bn (part of 63 Brigade 21Division) as a replacement during its preparations for “the Big Push”, the Battle of the Somme. It was quite usual for postings to be where the need was greatest, filling gaps and even being attached to different regiments. Archie was posted to France in May 1916 and went straight to the trenches on 7 June. Letters to his mother, now in the Epsom College Archives provide considerable detail of the conditions in which he
found himself.
He was killed on 1 July 1916 in an attack on the German trenches near Fricourt. His objective was to seize and consolidate Fricourt farm with advanced posts in Railway Alley and Railway Copse. They were to advance in the direction of 92 degrees magnetic, with the 8th Durham Light Infantry on their left of the battalion and the 10th Yorkshire on its right. Full details of the Military Orders are on the Epsom College Archive website.
He was buried initially at a point north of Fricourt in “No Man’s Land” in the angle of the Empress trench and the new communication trench. Map Ref Montauban sheet, Map sheet 26 square D, exactly on contour 110ft. A copy of the map was sent to his mother to help her understand the location of his grave. Outlying graves were later consolidated into cemeteries and Archie’s grave is now part of Gordon Dump Cemetery, France. He is also remembered on the Havant War Memorial, the WW1 plaque in Warblington Church and on the WW1 memorial in RMC Sandhurst Chapel.
Administration of his effects, which were valued at £80 1s 0d, was granted to his mother in Nov 1916. At this time his address was given as Brookfield, Emsworth Road, Havant.

His British War and Victory medals were sent to his mother at Norfolk House, Havant, Hampshire. At the time of his death his sister Nellie was a staff nurse at the military hospital at Langstone Towers, Havant, where their mother Lucy was Commandant for most of the war. She donated operating theatre equipment to the Havant War Memorial Hospital in memory of her son.

Sources:
Birth certificate
Census returns 1901,1911
Epsom College register M/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Havant memorial site
OS Map for Emsworth
TNA file WO 339/57567
Epsom College Archive: archive.epsomcollege.org.uk

St Ann’s House, Midhurst

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Warden House School, Upper Deal


Brookfield House, now a hotel

© Elizabeth Manterfield

Paxton in the 1st XV, 1915

Epsom College Archive
Archibald Paxton in 1916

Archibald Paxton in a group of officers. Photograph sent to his mother, after his death.

Archibald Paxton's entry on the Sandhurst Memorial
**Peachey, George Frederick**  
Birth Year: 1887  
Entered Epsom College: 1901  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.W. Kent Regt. 1914-18  
Rank:  
House:  
Decorations:  
Researcher:  

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

**Pedley, Kenneth Franklin**  
Birth Year: 1900  
Entered Epsom College: 1914  
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.F. 1917-18  
Rank:  
House:  
Decorations:  
Researcher:  

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

**Pembrey, Mervyn Seymour**  
Birth Year: 1900  
Entered Epsom College: 1915  
Regiment: Rfm. Rifle Brigade 1918  
Rank:  
House:  
Decorations:  
Researcher:  

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

**Pendred, Air Marshall Sir Laurence Fleming**  
Birth Year: 1899  
Entered Epsom College: 1911  
Regiment: R.N.A.S.  
Rank:  
House:  
Decorations: KBE, CB, DFC,  
Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh  

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

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In 1954, the R.A.F. and United States Air Force were the only two services to provide pupil pilots with jet experience during the Korean War.
pre-wings training, and the Commander-in-Chief Flying Training Command, Air Marshal Sir Lawrence Pendred pointed out that the standard R.A.F. training sequence of flying piston engine Provosts and jet engine Vampires was the result of four years experience of jet instruction. It had proved so successful that he thought ‘the sequence was likely to be with us for some time.’

Lawrence Fleming Pendred was the son of Dr B. F. Pendred of Loughton, Essex. He entered Epsom College in 1911 at the age of twelve years, and did well, being appointed a prefect and Captain of Fives (second illustration, left of back row), and winning the Brande Good Conduct Prize. His brother, Vaughan Berthon Pendred (born 1903) joined him at the College in 1914. In 1917 he joined the Royal Naval Air Service shortly before it was amalgamated with the Royal Flying Corps to form the R.A.F., and served as a pilot with No. 2 Squadron. One of his duties at that time was assisting Monitor shelling of German forts on the Belgian coast in May 1918. He then joined No. 202 Squadron and was based on the Western Front flying De Havilland 4s, and two years later he was awarded a Permanent Commission in the rank of Flying Officer, and then promoted Flight Lieutenant in 1926. He specialised in Intelligence and in 1930 joined the Intelligence Staff at Headquarters R.A.F. Transjordan and Palestine. In 1938 he returned to Britain and during World War II served on the Air Staff in the Deputy Directorate of Operations and later in the Directorate of Plans. With the outbreak of World War II the Air Ministry recognised the requirement for formalised Intelligence training and the R.A.F. Intelligence School was developed at Caenwood Towers, Highgate. Lawrence Pendred continued his war service as Chief Intelligence Officer at Headquarters R.A.F. Bomber Command (1941), Director of Intelligence at the Air Ministry in 1942, and as Chief Intelligence Officer at Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Air Force from 1944. Towards the end of the War he served as Assistant Commandant at the R.A.F. Staff College, Bulstrode Park, Gerrards Cross, and then as Air Officer Commanding No. 227 Group.

When World War II came to an end Lawrence Pendred was appointed Director of Intelligence to Supreme Commander, South East Asia, and later to Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Intelligence). In 1950, he was appointed Commandant at the School of Land/Air Warfare and, in 1952, he succeeded Sir Hugh Walmsley as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Flying Training Command. He retired from the R.A.F. in 1955. Other Honours included Grand Officer Order of Polonia Restituta and Commander of the Legion of Merit (USA). During the period 1955 to 1963 he was Regional Director (Midlands) of Civil Defence, and in 1959 he was made a Deputy Lieutenant (D.L.) of Warwickshire. In retirement he was appointed President of the Old Epsomian Club.
Penman, Geoffrey Evans

Birth Year: 1898  
Entered Epsom College: 1910  
House: C  
Regiment: T/Lt. Queen's Regt. and M.G.C. Killed in action 1917  
Rank: Lt  
HMM? No

Penman, Geoffrey Evans

Died 09/05/17 aged 19
Buried Mory Abbey Mil Cem, France


Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

Penman Geoffrey Evans, Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment attached Machine Gun Corps
Died: 9 May 1917

Geoffrey was born on 4 April 1898 (GRO Ref: Jun 1898 Gravesend 2a 554) the only child of Edgar Penman and his wife Jessie Callender nee Miller. His parents had married in 1896 (GRO Ref: Jun 1896 Ipswich 4a 1399). Geoffrey’s father was the Secretary at St Mark’s Hospital in the City Road, London EC.

In the 1901 census two year old Geoffrey and his mother Jessie were visiting Jessie’s sister and brother-in-law, Caroline and Rev Henry Holderness, at 1 Albion Crescent, Portland, Dorset. Geoffrey’s father was living at 147 Darnley Road, Gravesend. He was 29 years old and a hospital secretary. He employed one general domestic servant.

His father became the Secretary for the Home for Incurables in Crown Lane, Streatham and in 1909 was the Secretary of a committee to look at the effect of the new income tax on the revenue of charitable institutions and hospitals.

Geoffrey was educated privately and then his father enrolled him to enter Epsom College’s Lower School Fayrer House on 3 May 1910. At the time the family was living at 6 Gibsons Hill, Norwood. In July he finished in fourth place out of ten boys in the Second Form. He progressed to Carr House in the Upper School, but had an undistinguished career. In 1911 he came 21st out of 25 boys in the Upper Third form, having skipped the Lower Third form, and had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster. The next year he came 11th out of 26 boys in the Lower Fourth and again had a piece of work shown to the Head. He then continued in the Modern side of the school and came 9th out of 24 boys in Modern Middle II and 22 out of 25 boys the following year. He left on 31 March 1915. He was a private in the Officer’s Training Corps from January 1911 until he left the school.

In the 1911 census Geoffrey’s parents were staying at the Beulah Spa hotel, Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood, Croydon. His father was a secretary and his mother a housewife. They confirmed they had been married 14 years and had just the one child.

Geoffrey applied for a temporary commission, and expressed a preference to join the infantry and the 11th (Lambeth) Battalion of the Royal West Surrey Regiment. At the time his family was living at 32 St Aubyns Road, Upper Norward. Baronet Ernest Tritton of 5 Cadogan Place, London vouched for his good moral character. He was fit with good 6/6 eyesight. He was examined at the Duke of York HQ at Chelsea on 7 July 1915, and gained his commission as a temporary 2nd lieutenant on 9 July 1915. He went to France with RWSR in May 1916 but transferred to the Machine Gun Corps in September.

He joined 28 Brigade at Carriers on 10 December 1916 having left Folkestone on 9 December and passing through Boulogne. On 20 March 1917 he returned to attend the Anti-Aircraft School and then rejoined his company.

CWGC and Soldiers Died CD state that he belonged to 11th Bn Machine Gun Company whereas his file indicates that he served with 20 Machine Gun Company.
He was killed in action 9 May 1917. His Major wrote that “he was a splendid fellow and a splendid soldier with a very high sense of duty. You knew him as a son. We knew him as a very fine companion.”

He is buried at Mory Abbey Military Cemetery grave I D 9

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals.

His effects were sent to his parents at Ravenstone, Farquhar Rd, Upper Norwood. Sums to pay his army servants and grooms, 7s 4d each, were deducted from the money the army owed him.

Sources
BMD
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
Epsom Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
Medal Index Card
TNA WO 339/38977 long number 106034/3

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Penman, Geoffrey Evans, s. of Edgar Penman, bank officer, of Norwood, b. 1898, L.S. and C., l. 1915, T/Lt. Queen's Regt. and M.G.C., killed in action 1917

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Perkins, Charles Steele

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1894
Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. 3rd Canadian Light Horse 1914-18

---

Perkins, Richard Bloomfield

Birth Year: 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1885
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.S.C. 1916-21

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Phillips, Llewellyn Caractacus Powell

Birth Year: 1871
Entered Epsom College: 1884
Regiment: T/Col. R.A.M.C. 1914-1918

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MAS
“He acquired a large practice, both native and European, for at the beginning he made an excellent impression by his fine work during the cholera epidemic….he made a remarkable collection of old Arab glass weights and coins…”


Llewellyn Caractacus Powell Phillips (1871-1927) [Epsom College 1884-1889, prefect. Havillard Exhibition. Propert and Watts Science Prizes] was the son of Dr John Mathias Phillips, M.D., of Taibach, Glamorgan. From Epsom he won an Open Scholarship to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, graduating B.A. with First Class Honours in the first part of the Natural Science Tripos, and being awarded the Smart Prize, in 1892. He then won an Entrance Scholarship to St Bartholomew’s Hospital in 1894, where he completed his clinical training, and where he was successively a house surgeon and Assistant Demonstrator in Anatomy. In 1901 he was appointed Resident Surgical Officer at the Kasr-el-Aini Hospital, Cairo, and subsequently Physician to that hospital as well as the Anglo-American Hospital in Cairo. At the same time Llewellyn Powell was appointed Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Cairo Medical School, holding all these appointments until 1925. During this period he acquired a large practice, both native and European, having made a considerable impression by his fine work and leadership during the severe cholera epidemic. He published a number of important papers on tropical medicine including the chapter on “Phlebotomus [Sandfly] Fever,” in Bryan and Archibald’s Practice of Medicine in the Tropics (1915).

During the First World War Llewellyn Powell served in the Gallipoli campaign as Lieutenant Colonel in the R.A.M.C., where he was in charge of the British Red Cross Hospital at Giza, his wife acting as matron. He was mentioned in despatches four times and received the 3rd class Ottoman Order of the Medjidie and the 3rd class Order of the Nile. He was decorated for his work during the cholera epidemic in 1918. As Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Cairo University, he was personal physician to H. H. H. Hussein Kamel, Sultan of Egypt.

Phillis, Terence Patrick

Birth Year: 1898
Regiment: T/Lt. London Scottish 1915-18
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Rank: HMM?
House: M.C.

Researcher:

Elizabeth Manterfield

PIPER Charles Arthur Matthews, Rifleman. 9555. 1/5 Battalion London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade). Killed in Action 15 May 1915, aged 218 Charles Arthur Matthews Piper was born in Epsom in 1894 (GRO reference: Mar 1894 Epsom 2a 22a) to Charles Alfred and Ellen Mary Piper (nee Matthews). His parents had married in the September quarter of 1888 in the St George Hanover Square registration district. In the 1901 census the family lived in 'Arlesford' Ashley Road, Epsom. Charles' father, also Charles was a 38 year old solicitor, his mother Ellen was 34. Charles had a 3 year old brother, Henry. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid. December 1903, another brother had been born, John Egerton Christmas. John went on to enjoy fame as an artist. The 1891 census found the family still living at 'Arlesford', Ashley Road. Charles and his two brothers were all still at school. Although it is not recorded on the census, Charles was a scholar at Epsom College, and is commemorated on the College memorial. Charles's mother stated that she had been married for 23½ years and that she had given birth to four children, with three still living. Note: The birth of a 'male' Piper and the death of a 'male' Piper was registered in Epsom in the March 1895 registration quarter. The family employed three servants, a nurse, a cook and a housemaid. The census also recorded two visitors staying with the family. In a 1913, Charles became a Territorial Army soldier, joining the...
London Rifle Brigade (LRB) at its Sun Street headquarters, having paid his £1 annual for the privilege of joining what was considered by many to be an OTC (Officer Training Corps). Charles landed at Le Havre, France on 5 November 1914. On the day Charles was killed, 13 May 1915, the LRB was in the 11th Brigade, 4th Division. They were holding trenches on the Frezenberg Ridge in the Ypres Salient, which the Germans attacked, initially with heavy shellfire. The Official history states that: 'the front trenches of the 5/London (London rifle Brigade) and the 1/East Lancashire were flattened out and had to be evacuated'. On 13 May 1915, 36 men from the LRB lost their lives, including Charles, killed in action, probably by shellfire. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate memorial to the missing. The church Roll of Honour states that: CHARLES ARTHUR MATTHEWS PIPER, was killed in action in Belgium on 13th May 1915. Charles was awarded the 1914 Star, the British War medal and the Victory medal.

Piper, Henry Edmund Gordon

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1915-18

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Pitt, Charles Arthur

Birth Year: 1874
Entered Epsom College: 1888

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Pitt, Robert Cecil

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1890
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Pitt, Robert Cecil, brother of C. W. Pitt of Malmesbury, b. 1897, F., d. 1917, served in the Royal Flying Corps, T/Lt. 1916-18, brother of F. H. P. (1890) and R. C. P. (1890), d. 1951
Pitt, Robert Cecil, brother of the above, b. 1877, F., XV, XI, h. XI, l. 1895, Lond. Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C.; Gloucester House, Marine Drive West, Barton-on-Sea

Platt, Arthur Hardwicke

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Pochin, Guy Davenport

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Capt Manch. Regt. att. Min. of Munitions 1914-18


Pollard, Cyril Arthur

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Maj. R.F.A. 1914-18


Porritt, Lt.-Col. Reginald Norman

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.


Potts, Bernard Laurence

Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1916-18
Praetorius, Wilhelm Mathaus Philipp Alfred

Experience:
- He went to South Africa where he married May Ermyntrude Kynaston Hosking on 16 April 1875. Alfred also had an adopted sister, Eva Schwarzee aged 21. The household also included Elizabeth Pleines, Alfred’s maternal grandmother, a lady’s help, two visitors, a governess, 2 servants, a cook, and pupils of the school.
- Alfred entered the Lower III form in Forest House, Epsom College on 15 September 1892. When his father registered him for the College they were living at Praetoria House, Folkestone. Alfred was a particularly able student academically. In 1893 he came top of the Upper III form which consisted of 20 boys, winning the form prize and the Lower School prize for mathematics. He progressed in 1894 into the Middle IVth form, where he came third out of 25 boys, again winning the form prize. One of his pieces of work was considered to be especially good and was sent to the Headmaster. He then moved into Shell form, where he took second place. In 1896 in the Lower Fifth he came 7th out of 22 boys. In 1897 he became a sub Prefect but in Jul 1897 he was bottom of the Upper Fifth form. In February 1897 Alfred’s mother had died, followed on 1 May by the death of his father. He was so overcome with grief due to his domestic circumstances that in May 1897 he ran away. He was looked after by friends but did not return to school.
- He went out to South Africa where he married May Ermyntrude Kynaston Hosking on 16 April 1913 at Byrne church, Richmond, Natal, South Africa. Interestingly he anglicised his name and married as Matthew Philip William Alfred Praetorius. Whilst in South Africa he served for 9 months in the Imperial Light Horse during the Boer War and 7 years in the Natal Carbineers. He held a temporary commission in the Pretoria Artillery in the regular Army from 1907-1909. He retired on leaving Natal for the Transvaal.
- He was recognised as a good disciplinarian and one of smartest officers in the Regiment. He led his men fearlessly, a natural leader of men, “what the empire is anxious to welcome knowing they will render a good account of themselves and those in their charge.”
- He returned to England to enlist in July 1915. He put his papers in but then had to return to South Africa where his wife was dangerously ill. After her recovery he returned to Pretoria house, Woodbank, Matlock Bath. He completed a Short Service attestation for the duration of the war on 30 Aug 1917. He gave his occupation as gold metallurgist and farmer. At his medical he weighed 180 lbs, was 5ft 11½ins tall, and had 6/6 vision, and suffered from slight varicose veins. He was Church of England by faith. He was vaccinated on 5th April until he was posted to C Battery 155th Brigade in the field on 9 April. He was killed in action on 27 May 1918 at Blaireville, France. He is buried in Cabaret-Rouge Cemetery, Souchez, Pas de Calais grave VIII O 24.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Praetorius, Wilhelm MPA

Died 27/05/18 aged 38

Buried Cabaret-Rouge, France

The chaplain wrote “While I feel that nothing which I can say can help you much in so terrible a loss, yet it may be some consolation to know that he died in action firing his guns and that he was able to receive reverent burial in the presence of his Colonel and a number of officers and men from the battery.”

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his widow at Winkle Spruit, South Coast, Natal.

Sources:
Census 1891
Epsom college Registers M/s and printed.
Epsom College Yellow Book
South African War graves project
WO 339/117945

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Praetorius, Wilhelm Mathaus Philipp Alfred, s. of Alfred Praetorius, boarding school proprietor, of Folkestone, b. 1880, F., l. 1897, of unknown occupation, T2nd/Lt. R.F. A., killed in action in 1918

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Prance, Charles Paul Rooke

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: Pte 1st Can. Mounted Rifles 1914-18

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


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Prichard, Stephen Henry de Grave

Birth Year: 1893
Entered Epsom College: 1907

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954


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Procter, Capt. (E) Cecil George

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Capt. (E) R.N.

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Procter, Capt. (E) Cecil George, R.N. (retd.), brother of C. E. P. (1905), b. 1896, L.S. and G., l. 1908, formerly Asst. D.N.I, (tech.), A.D.C. to King George VI; St. David’s, Pinner Hill

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Procter, Charles Edgecumbe

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Lt. Norfolk Regt. Killed in action 1915
Edgecumbe, as he was known, was born in Natal, South Africa in 1892 the son of Dr Henry Charles Procter and his wife Annie Maud Mary nee Robinson. His father had been born in Clapham but went out to Natal soon after qualifying as a doctor. His mother had been born in Natal. The couple married in Kwazulu-Natal on 8 June 1891.

Edgecumbe had a younger brother Cecil George born on 3 Feb 1896 in Ladysmith, Kwazulu-Natal.

Edgecumbe entered Holman House in 1905 and progressed to Forest House in the Upper School in the following year. He moved up the school rapidly due to his hard work combined with ability. He showed similar application on the sports field, particularly in cricket where he was an excellent bowler and in rugby.

He left the College in 1909 with the Middlesex Hospital Scholarship but gave this up after a year with the intention of going to Cambridge and eventually taking Holy Orders. However, feeling the call to the mission field and realizing the importance of medical work he returned to hospital to qualify although it was not exactly to his taste.

His father died in Neasden in 24 March 1910. In the 1911 census Charles was staying with the Stainer family for a fortnight at 2 Roseville Terrace, Roseville Street, St Helier, Jersey.

Edgecumbe enlisted as Private 1716 with 5 London Field Ambulance and was discharged to a commission on 26 Aug 1914. He went to France on 30 May 1915, landing in Boulogne with his battalion on 31 May. The Division concentrated near St Omer and by 6 June were in the Meteren-Steenwerck area of northern France (about 16 miles north of Lille). They were instructed by the more experienced 48th (South Midland) Division and took over a section of the front line at Ploegsteert Wood on 23 June. He was killed by a German sniper in August whilst reinforcing a trench.

One tribute in the Epsomian noted his “greatness of ideal and sense of duty, and we feel his loss very deeply. There were not many to equal him in strength of character.”

A letter from his CO and brother officers testified to his worth and coolness as an officer and the sincere affection in which he was held by all ranks.

The following extract from a sergeant’s letter was published in the Yorkshire Evening Post on 4 Sept 1915:

“...I feel I must write to the mother of the finest gentleman who ever lived. The lads of the platoon and myself send to you our greatest sympathy for the loss of your son. You cannot imagine how much we miss him...every one of us looked to him as our leader and our hope and worshipped the ground he trod on. On 2 August Lieutenant Procter, myself and two privates were working on a piece of trench that was dangerous. We started at 2pm digging and shovelling till 7.15pm. The two privates went away for tea, but Mr Procter and myself stopped to finish. All the while we were working, an enemy’s sniper was sniping at us, making it very uncomfortable. Mr Procter took a periscope to find out, if possible, if he could detect him and I heard a shot. I did not take much heed of it until a sentry called to me and pointed. I saw Mr Procter with his arms on the parapet and his head down. I said “What have you lost Sir?” He did not reply and when I went to him and lifted his head I found that he had been shot through his left eye and right and the brain. Then I believe I went mad. I carried him down to the trench and he gasped his last. My God! I and every man in the whole company would gladly sacrifice all our lives if only we could have saved him.”

A less explicit version of the letter was also published in the Epsomian Nov 1915

He is buried in Rifle House Cemetery, which is located in Ploegsteert Wood and only accessible on foot. He was awarded the 1915 star, British War and Victory medals which were sent to his mother on 27 Feb 1922 at 70 Redcliffe Square, London SW10. She lived in Flat B.

Probate to administer his estate which was valued at £2872 10s 3d was granted to his mother Annie Maude Mary Procter on 18 July 1917.

Sources
Census 1911
CWGC
Epsom Register
Epsomian Nov 1915
London University Roll of Honour
Medal Index card
Soldiers died
The Wartime Memories Project
Yorkshire Evening Post 4 Sept 1915

Procter, Robert Arthur Welsford

Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Decorations: M.C.

Prowse, William Barrington

Entered Epsom College: 1882
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Decorations: 

Pyper, John William Anderson

Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: L/Cpl R.E. Killed in action 1915

Pyper, John William A
Died 10/06/15 aged 19
Buried Erquinghem, France

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Pyper, John William Anderson, s. of Gordon Pyper, tea planter, of Ceylon, b. 1896, W., l. 1913, L.Cpl. R.E., killed in action 1915
Quin, Clarence Francis

Birth Year: 1886
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1916-18

Researcher:

Quin, Clarence Francis, s. of dr. J. H. Quin of New Grimesthorpe, Sheffield, b. 1886, L.S. and F., l. 1903, occupation unknown, T/Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1916-18

Rackham, Arthur Leslie Hanworth

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: Hon. Maj. R.A.M.C.

Researcher:


Radford, John Arundel

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1912
Regiment: Artists Rifles 1915-18

Researcher:

Radford, John Arundel, s. of J. A. Radford, clerk, of Epsom, b. 1898, D B., 1-1914> occupation unknown, served in the Artists Rifles 1915-18

Rahilly, Capt. Denis Edward

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1900

Researcher:

Rahilly, Capt. Denis Edward, C.B.E.

Rahilly was a Lieutenant on HMAS Sydney. As gunnery officer, he had to climb the mast to direct the guns:

Following the outbreak of war in August 1914, Sydney was engaged in operations against Germany’s Pacific colonies and destroyed a radio station in the Pelew Islands. Returning to Australian waters, Sydney joined the escort of the first troop convoy from Australia to the Middle East, which left Albany on 1 November 1914.

On 9 November, Sydney was detailed to leave the convoy to investigate reports of an unknown vessel off the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. This vessel turned out to be the German cruiser SMS Emden. In the resulting engagement, Sydney was hit early by the long-ranging 10.5 cm guns of Emden, which resulted in four dead and twelve wounded. However, the superior firepower of the Australian cruiser’s broadside soon told and Emden was left “beached and done for” on North Keeling Island.

Sydney briefly rejoined the convoy at Colombo before proceeding to the Atlantic Ocean, via the Mediterranean Sea. In December 1914, Sydney was deployed to the Caribbean and based at Bermuda. For the next 18 months, she carried out patrol duties between the islands of the West Indies and along the east coast of North America, in concert with HMAS Melbourne. Both ships were also detailed for occasional special patrols along the north coast of South America.

In September 1916, Sydney and Melbourne were transferred to the 2nd Light Cruiser Squadron for duties with the Royal Navy’s Grand Fleet in the North Sea. In company with HMS Southampton and Dublin, they undertook patrol, escort and screening duties. While on patrol on 4 May 1917, Sydney and the other vessels accompanying her were attacked by the German zeppelin “L43”. The “L43” dropped ten to twelve bombs on the Sydney, none of which hit the ship, which responded with a heavy barrage of anti-aircraft fire. The “L43” escaped undamaged.

Later in 1917, Sydney was fitted with an aircraft launching platform and equipped with a Sopwith Ships Pup fighter. On 1 June 1918, while patrolling in the Heligoland Bight, Sydney and Melbourne launched their aircraft to engage two German reconnaissance aircraft. Sydney’s fighter destroyed one of the enemy aircraft.

Sydney was present at the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet on 21 November 1918. She returned to Australia on 19 July 1919. After the war, Sydney carried out routine fleet duties until paid off in 1928. She was broken up the next year.

Rahilly, Lt.-Col. John Maurice Bisdee

<table>
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<th>House:</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<td>1893</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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Ramsay, Alick Hector Winson

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Ramsay, Alick Hector Winson, Capt. I.A. 1914-18
Ramsay, Alick Hector Winson, s. of dr. F. W. Ramsay of Bournemouth, b. 1895, W., h. XI, l. 1913, Capt. I.A. 1914-18, farmer, Staff Sergt. E.A.F. 1939-45; Kitale, Kenya

Randall, George Frederick

Ranson, Jenner, brother of W. W. R. (1904), b. 1896, L.S. and F., l. 1914, employed in the betting industry, served in H.A.C. 1914-18; 17 Park Way, Friern Barnet

Ranson, John Sturges

Raper, Frank Alexander

Raper, Frank Alexander D’Arbly MC, Lieut., 122 Coy, Machine Gun Corps
Died 11/12/17 aged 33 Buried Giavera Brit Cem, Italy Reference: P2.RA.G6

Researchers: Liz Manterfield

Raper, Frank Alexander D’Arbly MC, Lieut., 122nd Bn Machine Gun Corps
Killed in Action: 11 Dec 1917.

Frank was born 5 October 1884 in Great Wakering, Shoeburyness Essex, England (GRO Ref: Dec qtr 1884 Rochford Essex 4a
the son of William Augustus Raper and Augusta Maude nee Winkworth, his second wife. His parents had married in Neuchatel on 20 April 1870.

In the 1881 census, before Frank was born, William was a 65 year old doctor and Augusta was aged 33. They had 7 children: Matthew aged 9, Edith 8, Catherine 7, Ethel 6, Helen 3, Lilian 2 and Cecil 1 and were living in the High St, Great Wakering, next door to the Anchor Inn. This continued to be the family home for over twenty years. They employed a cook and a nursemaid.

In the 1891 census Frank’s father was 75, a GP and the Duty Registrar, his mother Augusta was 42. Six year old Frank had 11 siblings, 9 of whom were living at home: Edith 18, Ethel 16, Helen 13, Lilian 12, Cecil 11, Phillip 9, Irene 7, Charles 5, and Olive aged 4.

Frank entered Epsom College, Granville House on 4 May 1899, and left in July 1902. He was recorded there in the 1901 census. His academic performance fluctuated during his time at Epsom: he came 13/23 in the Upper Fourth form and 8/22 the following year but slipped to 13th place out of 16 students in his last year. He passed his Lower Certificate in July 1901 and appears to have taken it again the following year, possibly to attain higher grades.

He was an excellent all round sportsman, reaching a peak in 1902 when he played in the first teams for rugby, hockey, gymnastics and cricket. His cricket critique in the school magazine in 1902 described him as a very fair bat but lacked forward strokes. He had too great a tendency to try to hit straight balls. Slow in field. In addition to sports he was also was in the Rifle Corps.

Frank’s father died on 9 Dec 1904. Times became hard for Frank’s widowed mother and in the 1911 census she was boarding at 21 Beverley Road, Anerley in South East London where she was working as a servant needlewoman.

Frank joined the army as private 513967 in the 14bn London Regiment and later received a commission and joined the Machine Gun Corps.

He was awarded the Military Cross in 1916 for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. At a critical moment when three gun teams had been almost annihilated by shell fire he restored confidence by his coolness and courage enabling the battery to open fire at zero in perfect order. He afterwards opened fire on the enemy and compelled them to retire at a time when the British infantry was falling back before superior numbers. For two days he so inspired his men that they were at all times collected and ready to open fire.

He was promoted to Temp Lieutenant in 1917.

Frank was killed in Italy on 11 Dec 1917 and is interred in Giavera British Cemetery, Veneto Arcade, Italy, Plot 2 Row A Grave 6.

In the probate documentation Frank’s address was given as Kent Lodge, Shrewsbury. Administration of his estate with his will was granted to Sydney Edward Jones attorney of Barbara Eileen Raper on 27 Apr 1918. His effects were valued as £806 13s 9d.

He was awarded the 1915 (?) star, the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his widow at 438 Clark Road, Durban, Natal, South Africa. His surname is recorded erroneously as Rapper on his medal card.

Source
Census 1881,1891,1901 and 1911
Epsom Register m/s and printed
Epsomian
Free BMD
Hampshire Advertiser 4 May 1870
Supplement to Edinburgh Gazette 27 Aug 1917
Soldiers died
TNA WO 339/58100

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Raper, Frank Alexander, M.C., brother of M. H. R. (1885), b. 1884, G., XV, XI, h. XI, I. 1902, occupation unknown, served in Cape Mounted Rifles in Boer War, T/Lt. M.G.C. World War I, killed in action

Raper, Matthew Henry

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1885
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: HMM?

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Ratsey, Thomas Christopher

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1909
House: HMM?
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<td>M.B.E.</td>
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<td>2nd Lt. R.F.C. Killed in a flying accident 1916</td>
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**Reed, John Sleeman**

- **Died**: 31/01/16, aged 19
- **Buried**: Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
- **Unit**: The Buffs
- **Reference**: SC.R14.G292

**Researcher**: Liz Manterfield
REED John Sleeman 2nd Lieutenant, East Kent Regiment,( the Buffs) attached to the Royal Flying Corps.

Died: 31 Jan 1916

John was born 14 November 1896 (GRO Ref:Dec 1896 Yarmouth 4b 38) at 225 High Street, Gorleston, the son of John Sleeman Reed and his wife Mary Hannah Armitage nee Ruddock. His parents had married in Huddersfield on 18 April 1895. In the 1901 census the family was still living at 225 High Street. John’s father was a 41 year old surgeon, his mother was 38. Four year old John had an 11 month old sister, Dorothy Mary. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid.

In 1911 census the family was living in the 13 roomed Surbiton Lodge, Gorleston on Sea, near Great Yarmouth. John’s father was 51 year old medical practitioner, and his mother was 48. John was 14 and his sister Dorothy was 10. The family employed 2 servants. The census recorded that the couple had had two children both of whom were still living.

John was educated at Great Yarmouth Grammar School from 1906 until July 1910. He then joined Epsom College entering the Lower School B (Fayrer) House on 15 September 1910 and progressing to Granville House in the Upper School. He did not flourish academically at Epsom coming 23rd out of 24 boys in both his years at the school and was almost bottom in both maths and french.

He left in July 1912 and went instead to Dulwich College, Blew House, from September 1912 until Apr 1915. He served in the school OTC from 22 Oct 1914 as a cadet.

On the outbreak of war he gave up his plan to study medicine in favour of the army. Dulwich College nominated him for a cadetship and he took the entrance exam for the Royal Military College, Sandhurst on 23 February 1915. His OTC Commanding Officer at Dulwich stated that his period of service had been too brief for him to be able to judge whether he had qualities that pointed to his potential as an officer or were of special merit. He had been in the Army Class of the Upper Fifth form but had joined relatively recently from the science side of the school where he had been preparing to study medicine. The Headmaster, George Smith, described him as a “good, average boy with plenty of pluck. He had been a house prefect and was a good all-round athlete. He was equal to his contemporaries in common sense, reliability and leadership.” Under the present conditions the Headmaster did not think he would benefit from a further period at school because he would be trying to obtain a commission, and he would be a credit to the school if accepted. His uncle colonel Tyack was serving with RAMC in India and his cousin Captain HG Ruddock was with the RFA. On his application he expressed a preference to serve in the East Kent Regiment. His second choice was the Suffolk Regiment because he had lived in Suffolk all his life, with the Norfolk Regiment as third choice. He did not wish to serve in India or the Colonies if he did not get the regiment of his choice.

His army medical on 28 Feb 1915 recorded that he was 18 years old, 66½ins tall, had a 32inch chest that could expand to 37inches and weighed 139 lbs. He had good hearing and eyesight, sufficient teeth (sic), normal colour vision. He had had diphtheria and pneumonia as a child but was fit.

He was gazetted 2nd Lieut in 1st Bn of the Buffs on 24 Nov 1915, attached to the RFC as an observer. In December 1915 he went across to Flanders and flew over the German lines at 3000 feet. After being fired at by the Germans he landed safely back at base.

John was the observer on a flight from Farnborough Flying School on the evening of Saturday 29 Jan 1916 in an biplane piloted by Lt Browning RFC. Their mission was to succour another aeroplane. Their aeroplane nose dived from a height of 200 feet. Browning attempted to bring the aeroplane, a new design, down but in doing so appeared to lose control and the machine fell to the earth. Both officers were badly injured and rushed to the Cambridge Military Hospital at Aldershot. John suffered serious head injuries and had to be operated on but died two days later from lacerations of the brain. At the inquest the cause of the accident was deemed to be that the pilot was flying the aircraft too low to sustain itself but he was exonerated from blame. John was buried at Gorleston cemetery Great Yarmouth Plot C.14.292 with full military honours at 12 o’clock on Saturday 5 Feb. He is remembered on the Great Yarmouth war memorial

The Epsomian Magazine remarked on his unfailing good nature combined with unselfishness.

His father was living at 20 Marine Parade Gorleston Great Yarmouth at the time of son’s death.

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Dulwich College Register
Epsom Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Times 5 Feb 1916
TNA WO 339/54055

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Reed, John Sleeman, s. of dr. J. S. Reed of Gorleston-on-Sea, b. 1896, L.S. and G., l. 1912 for R.M.C., 2nd Lt. R.F.C., killed in a flying accident 1916
The Sphere

Reeves, Frederick Kingham

Born: 1892, L S. and P., I. 1907, accountant, T/Lt. R.F.A. 1914-18; 24 Ryecroft Road, S.W. 16

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Renton, Augustus Cecil


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Renton, Eric Stuart


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Renton, Horation Bowerman

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

### Revill, Leslie Edward Howard

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**Regiment:** T/Lt. Lincs. Regt. 1917-18

**Decorations:**


### Reynolds, Frank Neon

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**Regiment:** T/Surg. R.N. 1917-18

**Decorations:**


### Reynolds, Leslie Lewis Clayton

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**Regiment:** T/Col. Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, desp (5), Croix de Guerre

**Decorations:** D.S.O., T.D.

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh


M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

1882 – 1974

Leslie Lewis Clayton Reynolds (LLCR) was born on 9th May 1882 in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, the eldest child of Dr Lewis William Reynolds (1856-1935) and his wife Fanny Matilda Clayton (1860-1932). The father of Dr Lewis W Reynolds, LLCR’s grandfather, was a surgeon, William Reynolds (1821-1871) who had five sons, all of whom went to Epsom College, Lewis William and Robert (1857-1922) in 1870, Arthur Henry (1860-1954) and Charles Edward (1861-?) in 1874, both of whom became engineers in S. Africa and Ernest (1862-1895) in 1876, who died young in the USA.1,2

LLCR had three brothers and three sisters. There was a strong military tradition amongst the brothers in addition to LLCR. Capt. Douglas R (1883-1933) was in the R.A.M.C. in WW1 and died in Queen Alexandra’s Military Hospital in Middlesex. Col. Eric William R (1885-1957), who went to Epsom in 1900, served in the Indian Army. Major-General Roger Clayton R (1895-1983) C.B., O.B.E., M.C. also
became a distinguished soldier.

LLCR entered Epsom College in 18942 in Wilson House. The record shows that he was absent for much of the first year, probably through illness, something which seems to have been a common occurrence amongst younger boys in those years. In 1896 in the Lower Third Form on the Modern Side he was placed 3rd of 24 boys at the end of the year. In 1997 still in the lower school he was 3rd of 21 and then after moving to the Middle School the following year he dropped back in the end of year places to 16 of 18. He remained in the upper forms in the Middle School throughout 1899 and 1900 and then in his final year in 1901, in the Upper School in the 6th Form studying physical science, he won the Brande Good Conduct Prize and became a school prefect. He played in the 2nd XV Rugby and was a Lieutenant in the school Rifle Corps having served in the CCF for 5 years. Finally he passed the 1st examination of the Conjoint Board in Biology before going up to Guy’s Hospital to read medicine.

He was clearly strongly motivated towards a military career and quickly joined the Territorial Force. In May 1901 he was commissioned as a 2/Lt in the 1st Buckinghamshire Regt. (LG 27318 p3641) and almost immediately rose to Lt.4 and then in July 1903 he was promoted to Capt. (LG 27577 p4525). It appears that this Territorial unit was originally known as the 1st Buckinghamshire Volunteer Rifle Corps until on the 1st April 1908 it was renamed The Buckinghamshire Battalion, The Oxfordshire Light Infantry and all the officers from Colonel to 2/Lt were “appointed to the battalion, with rank and precedence as in the Volunteer Force” (LG 27178 p6770). Captain LLC Reynolds was one of those transferred.

In 1908 he qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. at Guy’s Hospital and over the next few years he carried out house appointments at The Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street and at Newark. In 1913 he married Elizabeth Bianca Weber (1883-1944), a widow who had been born in Germany. In 1911 she was working as a Nursing Sister in the Evelina Children’s Hospital in Southwark where she may well have met her future husband, this hospital having a close relationship with Guy’s Hospital where he had trained. They married in High Wycombe (GRO 3a 2129) and their two children were both born during the war, Geoffrey in 1915 in Chelmsford Essex and Dora in 1917 in Bideford, Devon.

When the Great War broke out he was soon involved in the conflict and it is interesting to note that he remained with his infantry regiment throughout the war rather than transferring to the R.A.M.C. as he would have been well qualified to do. In February 1915 he was promoted to T/Major (LG29589 p5048). On 30th March the 1st Bn. (Buckingham Bn.) Ox. & Bucks. Lt., part of the 145th Infantry Brigade, moved to Folkestone and then Osterhove in Flanders arriving there on the following day. They were soon involved in action and on the 6th May, now at Ploegstreet Wood the Bn. War Diary records: “ ---- rifle grenades used on both sides. Two landed behind “A” Coy. fire-trench wounding Captains. Reynolds, Bowyer, Lt Green & 6 OR’s ----.”

LLCR’s wound was described by one medical officer as a “glancing bullet wound” although others attributed the wound to shrapnel from an exploding grenade which appears to have been the case. He was struck on the left side of his head in the mastoid region (the region behind the ear). He was concussed and left with profound deafness in his left ear and vertigo (dizziness). He was recommended for a month’s sick leave and was evacuated from Boulogne to Dover on the hospital ship “St Andrew” and then went to Bideford in Devon for convalescence. A Medical Board declared him fit for general service again on 26th June 1915 although it was noted that significant deafness persisted.

Much of the next year was spent by the battalion in and out of the trenches in the front at Hebuterne about 5 miles south west of Arras, moving back to the reserve area at Couin a few miles west at intervals, much of the time under fire and during the winter in wet and dreary conditions. At the end of May 1916 they marched back from the front to a training area at Beauval, south of Doullens, a distance of about 18 miles giving them a short break from the fighting. On the 2nd June however it was noted in the diary “Lt Col LC Hawkins damaged his shoulder owing to a fall from his horse. Major LLC Reynolds assumed command”. It appears that the former Commanding Officer did not return to his command and on 1st July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, Major Reynolds became Actg. Lt/Colonel of the Battalion (LG 30249 p8783).

In August a major offensive took place in the Albert, Hebuterne region of the line in which the Battalion was heavily engaged taking many casualties, The Somme offensive raged through the summer and autumn and the 1st Ox. & Bucks. Lt served with great distinction participating in The Battle of Albert, The Battle
of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights, and The Battle of the Ancre. Amongst numerous awards given to the Battalion was the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) awarded to their Commanding Officer in November 1916:

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He handled his battalion with great skill and determination. On two separate occasions his good leading has achieved important success (EG 13012 p2066).”

He was first mentioned in despatches (MID) by General Sir Douglas Haig following this in January 1917 (LG 292890 p232), in his despatch covering the Somme offensive. By February they were back in the trenches at Berleux just north of Hebuterne. They were fighting most of the year in the region north of Albert and were involved in heavy fighting in particular in August around Steenbeck where LLCR played a very prominent role and in September 1917 he was awarded a Bar to his D.S.O.-

“Maj. (T./Lt.-Col.) Lewis Leslie Clayton Reynolds, D.S.O., Ox. & Bucks. L.I.
For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Owing to heavy officer casualties three of his companies became disorganised in an attack. He moved forward at once to the front line, and by his personal gallantry and determination rapidly organised his men and drove off the enemy's counter-attack, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The situation was most critical and had it not been for his splendid example the enemy's counter-attack would have succeeded ((LG 30308 p9968).”

In December 1917 he was again MID by Haig who was now a Field Marshall (LG 30441 p13364) for service in the campaigns of February to September 1917. In May 1918 the Field Marshall mentioned him for a third time in a despatch (LG 30711 p6335) which dealt with the battles from mid-September 1917 until February 1918. During the early part of this period the Oxford and Bucks LI were still on the Western Front, until in November 1917 the Battalion went to Italy with LLCR in command. Earlier in that year the Italians had suffered a serious disaster in the Battle of Caporetto against the Austro-Hungarian allies of the Germans. With the aim of strengthening Italian resolve the 48th Division, of which the 1st Ox & Bucks were part, were moved to Italy to hold the front at Moretto. They took part in the Battle of Assiago in June 1918 and then crossed the River Piave on the 23rd October defeating the Austro-Hungarians again at the Battle of Vittorio Veneto. They ended the war at Trento.

During this period LLCR was mentioned in despatches twice by the Commander in Chief, Italy, General the Earl of Cavan K.P., K.C.B., M.V.O., first for his service from 26th February 1918 until 14th September 1918 (LG 31106 p232) and then again for actions in the period 15th September until 31st December 1918 (LG 31384 p7208). In his despatch of the 44th December 1918 (LG 31049 p14412) the General mentions that after the crossing of the River Piave, the 48th Division “was the first British division to enter enemy territory on the Western Front”. The Austrians had signed an armistice with the Allies on 4th November 1918. In June 1918 during service in Italy LLCR had become Brevet Lt/Col (LG 30718 p6494) reverting back to his T/Lt/Col. rank after the war in April 1921 (LG32308 p3514).

His courage and leadership were not only recognised by his own country but were rewarded by the allies whom he fought alongside. By order of the Crown of Italy in March 1919 he received the Silver Medal for Valour (LG 31222 p3284) and in May 1919 was awarded the Territorial Decoration (LG 31365 p6655). In June 1919 he received from the French, the Croix de Guerre avec Palme (LG 31393 p7398). On 20th October 1920 in a commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Buckingham the Gazette recorded “Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Leslie Clayton Reynolds, D.S.O., T.D., of Brig House, Amersham Hill, High Wycombe, to be Deputy Lieutenant” (LG 32098 p10306). He received the 1914/15 Star, B.W.M. and V.M.7 and in view of his association with the T.A. in WW2 he would no doubt later have been awarded the 1939-45 Star and 1939-45 War medal.

In August 1921 he relinquished his commission (LG 32431 p6661) and returned to civilian medical practice in High Wycombe where he had been born and where his father had long been established as a doctor. However he clearly maintained links with the Territorials and in 1923 was promoted to Colonel from the reserve list, back dated to April 1921 (LG 32808 p2241). He became physician and surgeon to High Wycombe Memorial Hospital and medical officer to the Post Office. He was also a member of the medical board of Wycombe Abbey School. He was a magistrate and freeman of the borough of Chepping Wycombe and in the Second World War he served on the County Council and was Colonel of the T.A. Association in spite of having formally retired from the Territorial Army in May 1939 (LG 34632 p3781).
His first wife Elizabeth Reynolds died in 1944 aged 61. In September 1945 LLCR married for a second time Christobel Catherine Coward (1892-1984) in Kensington (GRO 1a 256). He eventually retired to Bideford in Devon where he died at his home Endycross Bay, View Road, Northam on 6th July 1974 aged 92 (GRO Bideford: vol.21 p0783). His second wife outlived her husband, who had left her well provided for, and died in a nursing home in Exmouth in 1984 aged 911.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
2 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
4 TNA WO 374/57048 Service record
5 TNA War Diary 1st Bucks Bn. WO 95 2763/2 Apr 1915 – Oct 1917
6 LLT- The Long, Long Trail
7 Medal Roll Index card
LG/EG: London/Edinburgh Gazette
GRO: General Registry Office.
*Bar to DSO

Charles S Gallannaugh November 2016

Reynolds, Lt.-Col. Eric William

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Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Richards, William Tolwyn

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Researcher:

Richardson, Alfred

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Researcher:
Ridley, Henry Lancelot

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<td>Died:</td>
<td>29/07/16</td>
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He was awarded the

Henry left Epsom in July 1906. He was awarded the Mayo Scholarship to Oxford and the Anstie memorial scholarship. This provided £40 for 4 years to a boy requiring assistance to enter Oxford or Cambridge. Preference was given to orphan sons of medical men.

In the 1911 census Henry was living with his widowed mother and sister Ethel at Valley View in Wotton Under Edge, Wiltshire. He was working as an assistant master in a private school. Prior to the outbreak of war he was teaching at Southborne near Bournemouth.

Henry enlisted in Bristol as Private 14768. His service papers have not survived but his medal index card shows that he arrived in France on 22 Nov 1915 with the 12th (Service) Gloucester Battalion (Bristol), D company. This Battalion was raised at Bristol on the 30 August 1914 by the Citizens Recruiting Committee. After training close to home, they joined 95th Brigade, 32nd Division at Wensleydale in June 1915, and were officially adopted by the War Office on 23 June. They moved to Codford on Salisbury Plain for final training in August 1915 and proceeded to France on the 21 November 1915. On the 26 December 1915 they transferred with 95th Brigade to 5th Division as part of an exchange designed to stiffen the inexperienced 32nd Division with regular army troops. In March 1916 5th Division took over a section of front line between St Laurent Blangy and the southern edge of Vimy Ridge, near Arras. They moved south in July to reinforce troops on The Somme and were in action at High Wood.

The regimental war diary recorded the operational situation at the time of Henry’s death:

28 July 1916 Orders to relieve 1st Cheshires in action NE of Longueval. Complete by 4am. During afternoon of 28th came under heavy and accurate artillery. Many casualties due to extremely violent bombardement of our trenches by 8 and 11 inch howitzers. Then in reserve POMMIERS Redoubt.

29 July. In front line. B and C Coy attacked at 3.30 and gained objective. 8 OR killed, 23 wounded, 7 missing.

30 July. Battalion relieved by 14 Royal Warwickshire regiment. In reserve east of Mametz

Henry died on 29 July 1916.

He was awarded the 1915 Star, and the British War and Victory medals

He is buried in the London Cemetery & Extension Longueval Somme 4.C.19. He is commemorated on the Wotton Under Edge memorial, and in both St Nicholas’s church and on the Upper Chute war memorial. He is also listed in the Salisbury Cathedral book of remembrance.

Sources

Census returns 1891, 1901, 1911
Ridley, Henry Lancelot, s. of the Rev. Lancelot Ridley of Chute, Wilts, b. 1888, W., l. 1906, occupation unknown, Pte. Glos. Regt, killed in action in World War I

Henry Ridley in 1902

Robathan, Percival Edward

- Entered Epsom College: 1891

Roberts, Ffrangcon

Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. And R.A.F.M.S. 1914-18
House: HMM?

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Roberts, Maj.-Gen. John Hamilton

Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: Canadian Forces
House: HMM?

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh


John Hamilton Roberts (JHR) was born on the 21st December 18911 in Pipestone Manitoba in Canada, the son of William Percy Roberts (1866-1924) of Vancouver, an estate agent and his wife Mary McKinnon (1867-1954). W.P. Roberts had been born in Dunster, Somerset, son of Dr Charles Roberts (1835-1901) who practised in Somerset and later in Uxbridge. Mary McKinnon was from Renfrew in Scotland but she and her future husband both moved to Canada when young and were married in Manitoba in 1889. They were to have three sons but only JHR was to survive beyond childhood, Charles (1890-1903) dying age 13 and Eric (1896-1901) when he was just five2.

JHR, known always by those who knew him well as ‘Ham’, was entered for Epsom College by his father and started there in May 1905 in Wilson House in the lower school in the Lower W form. In 1906 he was in the Upper W form where he was placed 14/22. He left the College at Easter 1907 and therefore was not featured in the end of year placings that year. His guardian at that time, when he would have been 16, was a Miss E.M. Roberts2 who was an unmarried sister of his father, Effie Maud Roberts, at that time matron of Norwood Cottage Hospital in Surrey1.

From Epsom JHR went on to the Upper Canada College, Toronto, and then the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario from where he was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) in 1914. He was apparently “a robust and active student [who] excelled in sports, particularly football, tennis, shooting and cricket”.12

On 10 August 1915 he signed up to serve with the Canadian Over-seas Expeditionary Force4 and then joined the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery3 (RCHA) in which he remained until wounded in 1918. The RCHA arrived at Devonport in England on 17 October 1914 and shortly after moved to West Down North Camp on Salisbury Plain5. For the next 8 months they appear to have participated in training exercises moving to Wiltshire in January 1915 and then Maresfield in Sussex in March. In July 1915 they embarked at Southampton for Havre and then moved to Louches on 23 July. By September they were on the Ypres salient at Ploegstreet moving to Neuve Eglise in October. It is likely that about this time JHR would have
joined them from Canada judging by the date on his attestation papers. 2 The RCHA was part of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade which provided mobile artillery support in France and Flanders until the end of the war. The nature of their work at the front involved frequent moves with their horses and guns through mud and rain initially in the Ypres area, first at Neuve Eglise and Woincourt and later further south along the south bank of the Ancre to Bernancourt and St Quentin. In January 1916 they were attached to the Indian Cavalry Division.

JHR is mentioned a number of times in the diary. In November 1916 is a note that “Lt. Roberts takes over command of ammunition column whilst Capt. Hughes is on leave”. On 1st January 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross in the New Year Honours list following the Somme campaign (LG 29886 p 45) and then on 7 March 1917 “Lt JH Roberts evacuated sick” from the front line, a situation which seems to have arisen frequently amongst the soldiers including the G.O.C. XIV Corps, Lt-General Cavan. In a letter he sent to the Colonel of the RCHA in September 1916 he thanked him and his troops following a recent action. “Although I was sick myself I want to thank you most sincerely for the excellent help your Horse Artillery Fusiliers gave to my Corps in the capture of Guillamont and Ginchy.” Clearly the appalling conditions took its toll of all ranks and in 1918 according to the diary, the Brigade was smitten with the influenza pandemic which swept through the troops throughout Europe.

On 19 December 1917, then aged 25, he married Mary Isobel Waldron (1894-1941) at Holy Trinity Church Brompton in London his occupation being recorded as a Captain, Canadian Forces. On leave from the front at that time he gave his address as the Rembrandt Hotel his future wife then living nearby in the Cromwell Road.

Soon after their marriage he returned to France and on the 30 March 1918 the infantry launched an attack at Castel where the RCHA were asked to lay down a barrage lasting 15 minutes. The record reads “The attack was successful and group later received a letter from GOC Centre Brigade thanking them for successful barrage, Lt. JH Roberts who was commanding ‘B’ Battery in the absence of Major Lafferty who was on leave was wounded at about 4pm”.

After release from hospital JHR was employed as an instructor until the armistice in November 12. In due course he returned to Canada with his family and at the time of the June 1921 census of Canada he and his wife were living in Kingston again with two young boys aged 3 who it seems were twins. One son William H. (1919-2000) was to follow his father into the army. Later that year in September the family left for England where JHR attended an artillery course with the Royal Artillery at Woolwich. The family returned to Ontario in August 1922 where a third son, John Gaskin (1922-2000) was born. In WW2 John also served as a Lieutenant in the RCA, his father’s first regiment.

In 1924 JHR moved to Winnipeg where he continued to train future gunners and later he was posted to Halifax for duty with the heavy artillery. He was promoted to Major in 1929 and then Lt. Colonel in 1939 at the outset of war 12. He left for France with the 1st Field Brigade of the 1st Canadian Division which arrived in England in December 1939 when it became the 1st Field Regiment RCHA. In June 1940 the regiment, having reached west of Le Mans as part of the Second BEF, was ordered back to England and JHR distinguished himself by being the only allied commander to return with all his guns. He also brought back 12 Bofors, 7 predictors, 3 Bren gun carriers and a number of technical vehicles 12. In July 1940 he was promoted to Brigadier and became Commander Royal Artillery 1st Canadian Division assuming command of the Royal Artillery, 1st Canadian Corps a year later. In April 1942 he was promoted to Major-General, took command of the 2nd Canadian Division from General Victor Odlum and set about training the troops up to a high standard 8.

In 1941 his first wife died in Ontario at the early age of 471. They had travelled back to Canada in 1937 and it seems likely that she had not been able to return with him to Europe when the war intervened. The death of his wife left him with a young daughter, Diana (1929-1998), who was only 12 and a son of 19 at a time when he was under great pressure in the war. Fortunately their grandmother was still alive and no doubt took over their mother’s role. It was shortly after this personal tragedy, on the 19th August 1942, that an event took place in France which would change his life again.

The Dieppe Raid - 19 August 1942

The Raid on Dieppe, or operation Jubilee to use its code name, was a disaster. In part IV of the official
report issued in October 19425A the figures of the Allied losses are detailed. Summarising here, of the approximately 6000 strong force only a quarter returned that day. Of the soldiers, 3648 of all ranks were killed, died of wounds, were wounded, missing or taken prisoner of whom 3,164 were men of the 2nd Canadian Division. In just over 6 hours a total of 550 sailors of the Royal Navy and 190 airmen of the RAF were killed, captured or reported missing. One hundred and six Allied planes, of which 88 were fighters then in short supply, were destroyed with half the pilots killed compared with 48 Luftwaffe fighters. All 28 Churchill tanks put ashore by the 14th Calgary Tank Regiment were lost together with 13 other vehicles and large amounts of lesser ordnance such as Bren guns, rifles and ammunition. The Hunt Class destroyer HMS Berkeley was sunk together with 33 landing craft. In an early report to the C-in-C Allied Expeditionary Force, General Dwight D Eisenhower just after the raid, the secretary at Combined Operations Headquarters (COHQ), General L Hollis, informed him amongst other matters that the destroyers HMS Calpe, from which the Army and Naval Force commanders conducted the operation, HMS Brocklesby, the Polish destroyer Slazak and a steam gunboat had all been damaged by bombs5B. The late Robin Neillands7 at the start of the first chapter in his book The Dieppe Raid, quoted a German interrogator trying to make some sense of this tragedy when questioning a Canadian prisoner later that day: “Too big for a raid, too small for an invasion - what were you trying to do?”

What indeed were they trying to do and perhaps more importantly for our purpose here, who asked them to do it? On the 11 May 1942, Admiral Mountbatten who had recently been appointed Director of Combined Operations, announced at a meeting of the Chiefs of Staff Committee (COS) that a raid on the French coast, to be code named operation Rutter, was “to be carried out in latter part of June”. The object of this attack was “To carry out a raid on Dieppe, remove invasion barges and destroy aerodrome installations at St. Aubin, and capture divisional HQ at Arques”. As “The time ashore will not exceed 17 hours”, it was clearly a raid and not an invasion which aims to establish a period of occupation over some time5C.

The idea of carrying out harassing raids on the coast of occupied Europe had been around for a while and was indeed encouraged by Churchill although there was little knowledge of the practical requirements for amphibious landings amongst senior allied commanders. Those who had experienced Gallipoli were unlikely to be enthusiastic. In 1942 the political pressures on Churchill were huge. We were losing the war and there was a general feeling that we needed to do much more to assist the Russians, now our allies, who were fighting to hold back the German onslaught in the East. The Royal Navy was struggling hard to control the U-boat menace in the Atlantic and on 10 December 1941 had lost the Battleship Prince of Wales and the Battle-Cruiser Repulse in the South China Sea. Churchill had been forced to cut short a trip to the United States in April to return to respond to a Motion of Censure which had been tabled in the House of Commons having learned whilst in the States that Tobruk had fallen.8 The Chief of the Imperial General Staff (CIGS), General Sir Alan Brooke, who chaired the Chiefs of Staff (COS) Committee was struggling to contain Churchill’s enthusiasm for numerous irregular actions which political expediency deemed necessary to satisfy the demand by many for the allies to demonstrate active support for Russia by an early invasion of Europe. Brooke was only too well aware that a premature invasion would be courting disaster and was firmly committed at that time to the North African campaign, operation Torch as it was known. An idea code named Jupiter had been put forward, which had caught the Prime Ministers eye, which involved the capture of airfields in Norway and the Chiefs of Staff were convinced such a raid would be a disaster if it took place. It is just possible that to satisfy Churchill, when one of his pet schemes was turned down yet again, Brooke felt that another raid such as Rutter, to use the first code name for the Dieppe raid, might be a useful way of temporarily placating his chief8. As Loring Villa points out “If Jupiter had been feasible, Dieppe might never have occurred because Churchill did not really like frontal attacks against high odds whenever he came to examine them closely”.

In 1942 General Montgomery was commanding the South-Eastern Army in England and the Canadian Corps was part of his command. As he described in his memoirs9 the organisation of raiding parties on the French coast “was one of the functions of Combined Operations (CO), the head of which was Admiral Mountbatten”. Montgomery was responsible for the Army side of the planning for the raid on Dieppe which began in April 1942 and it appears that he was always somewhat lukewarm on the matter. The task of carrying out Rutter, to use the first code name for the raid, was given to the 2nd Canadian Division, accompanied by a small force of American Rangers and British Commandos, under the command of Major-General ‘Ham’ Roberts and intensive training was organised. On the 2nd and 3rd July the troops and tanks were loaded on to ships and briefed but the weather in the Channel deteriorated and in due course operation Rutter was cancelled by Admiral James at Portsmouth7 who had the final decision as to whether the ships should sail. The troops were disembarked and dispersed. Although Montgomery’s
subsequent recollections of the Dieppe raid have been questioned by historians it is clear that he considered, quite reasonably, that once “the troops had had been fully informed of the objective of the raid and of the details connected with it; it was reasonable to expect that it was now a common subject of conversation in billets and pubs in the south of England, since nearly 5000 Canadian soldiers were involved as well as considerable numbers of sailors and airmen”. He therefore considered that on the grounds of security the Dieppe raid was to be abandoned and was no longer on the agenda.

However Mountbatten thought otherwise. On the 6th July he announced to the COS that Rutter had been postponed and he recommended that if Rutter was cancelled “consideration” should be given later to remounting it. The COS “Agreed that should operation Rutter not take place as now proposed, the Force should be dispersed and the Chief of Combined Operations should consider remounting it at a later date”. The remounting of the Dieppe plan under a new code name Jubilee was Mountbatten’s responsibility as Director of Combined Operations and he pursued it with enthusiasm. Just how he went about obtaining the agreement of the Chiefs of Staff remains shrouded in mystery. No written record of an agreement to remount Rutter has ever been found a matter discussed at length by Loring Villa 8. It seems that he chose to interpret the decision of his Chiefs that it should be “considered”, as recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the 6 July 1942, as meaning that he could act on his own unauthorised initiative thereafter. It also seems reasonable to assume on reading the minute that the COS intended that Mountbatten would bring the matter to their notice again if remounting Rutter was to be reconsidered 5D.

According to Montgomery when he heard the scheme was to be revived he “was very upset”. He wrote to General Paget, C-in-C Home Forces, stating that the “raid on Dieppe should be considered cancelled ‘for all time’”. His advice was ignored and on the 10th August he left England to take command of the 8th Army in Egypt, taking no further part in the Dieppe project.

Planning went ahead and although at an early stage Ham Roberts made it clear that he had reservations about the project these were glossed over. In his very detailed and extensively researched analysis of Rutter/Jubilee Loring Villa describes how the Naval Force Commander for Jubilee at COHQ at that time, Rear Admiral Baillie-Grohman, who had considerable experience of amphibious operations 8 as opposed to Mountbatten who did not, sent a letter to Mountbatten which he and Roberts signed “pointing out that there had been no full military appreciation to assess how well integrated the various parts of the plan were and what the prospects for success were”. This letter was apparently discussed at a meeting on 11 July after Rutter had been called off at which Air Marshall Leigh Mallory, the RAF Commander for Rutter who was present, associated himself with the letter and said that “not to have such an appreciation” was “fundamentally unsound”. There was no mention at this meeting of reviving the operation or of the COS minute of 6th July authorising reconsideration. If the review which the letter advised had been carried out the three force commanders could have challenged their superior officers “who saw no difficulty in remounting Rutter”. “As all the contemporary sources are unanimous in saying that Roberts was very loyal and brave – not the sort ‘to put the break on anything’ – his willingness to add his signature to Baillie-Grohman’s letter bespoke grave concern”. Baillie-Grohman seems to have been the only person who really tried to help Roberts during the planning stage and the way Roberts was treated by Mountbatten and his staff is described in detail by Loring Villa on page 198 of his book.

With scant regard for the consequences Mountbatten set about brow-beating Roberts into agreeing to carry out the raid. By now Admiral Baillie-Grohman who had been increasingly critical of the project and of the professional competence of COHQ had been replaced by an officer of lesser rank as the Naval Force Commander for Jubilee, Capt. Hughes-Hallett RN, a supporter of Mountbatten. Eventually at a meeting on the 16th July, with Baillie-Grohman, and Montgomery out of the way, in the presence of General McNaughton the overall Canadian Commander in the UK, “Roberts finally said that if McNaughton ‘instructed’ him to carry it out, he would do so. McNaughton said he would, and the deed was done – Roberts would loyally attempt to fulfil his promise”10 (quoted by Villa). Having done all he could to make sure the raid was not carried out without a full military appraisal and having been overruled by his superior officers he could do no more.

Unfortunately there appears to have been a woeful lack of reliable intelligence with regard to the enemy force which might be encountered. The idea was around that the German troops in the area were generally second rate and were likely to be unprepared for a raid. Nothing could have been further from the truth. Lt. Colonel Lord Lovat, the commander of No.4 Commando in the raid 6, a man who clearly studied his enemy before an attack wrote “[Field Marshall Gerd] von Rundstedt ranks as a first class
soldier, and Colonel-General Curt Haase, who commanded the army group in Normandy, was no fool.” Lovat, whose assiduous planning of his own part in the raid, vigorous training and superb leadership, achieved the only major success that day. He later wrote about an order of the day issued to the German XVth Army which was found on a notice board by No. 4 Commando which they brought back to England after they destroyed the guns at Varengeville-sur-Mer. General Haase had warned his troops on 10 August 1942:

“The information in our hands makes it clear that the Anglo-Americans will be forced, in spite of themselves, by the wretched predicament of the Russians to undertake some operations in the West in the near future. They must do something – .In order to keep their Russian allies fighting.

"For home front reasons.

After stressing the importance of keeping this matter before his troops the General went on:

“Bombing and strafing from the air, shelling from the sea, commandos and assault boats, parachutists and air-landing troops, hostile civilians, sabotage and murder – all of these they will have to face if they are not to go under.” A few days later Field Marshall von Runstedt issued a special order warning “The night of 18/19 August can be regarded as suitable for enemy raiding operations ----”. The almost uncanny foresight of these two senior German commanders meant that the element of surprise which the planners at COHQ had hoped for was absent and the Canadian soldiers were in effect sailing to disaster.

It is therefore remarkable that although this information was available immediately after the remnants of the Force returned from Dieppe the official report on the raid when it was issued by Mountbatten’s office on 15 October 1942 should state5E:

“1067. Evidence from interrogation of German prisoners captured at Dieppe”.

“1067. 2 (c): ---if a raid was really expected at Dieppe no serious steps were taken to prepare for it; even after the Naval brush in the Channel no forewarning seems to have reached private soldiers.”

In the unlikely event that the German private soldiers did not or could not read, it would seem even less likely that their officers, in view of the order found by No. 4 Commando, were blissfully unaware of the likelihood of a possible raid. In the words of Lord Lovat “We were expected to arrive at a certain date – and so we did. The raid was signposted all the way 6.”

A vast literature on the Dieppe raid is available for those who wish for a much more detailed account of the actual raid than can be given in this short study which aims to show as others have done that the débâcle which occurred on the 19 August 1942 at Dieppe was not the fault of the General in command of the force on the day as was initially alleged in the immediate aftermath of the raid, but of others. The historian Andrew Roberts in his excoriating analysis of Mountbatten’s actions as Director of Combined Operations comments in detail on the despicable treatment that Roberts and the Canadian force were subjected to after the event.

11 “For all his and his confederate’s attempts to shift the blame elsewhere – on to Lieutenant-General Bernard Montgomery, on to the Canadian Major-General Ham Roberts and many others – it was Mountbatten’s operation and his alone.” Lord Lovat described it succinctly.6. “But he [Roberts] made a convenient scapegoat to carry the can. Roberts behaved like a gentleman throughout.”

In October The Victoria Cross was awarded to three men for their part in the battle, Major Patrick Anthony Porteous, Royal Artillery liaison officer with no 4 Commando; Lieutenant –Colonel Charles Ingersoll Merritt of the South Saskatchewan Regt; and Capt. Rev. John Weir Foote, Chaplain to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, the only Canadian Chaplain to be awarded the V.C. Very many other awards for gallantry that day were made, among them the Distinguished Service Cross to Major-General John Hamilton Roberts M.C. and to Lt. Colonel Lord Lovat M.C. (LG 35729 p 4325).

What was learnt from this tragedy which claimed the lives of so many courageous men? Again Andrew Roberts leaves no room for doubt “for, in truth, contrary to Mountbatten’s later assertions, Dieppe contributed nothing ---- and taught military planners hardly anything that common sense and normal research and development would not anyhow have dictated”.

 Montgomery predicted this view when he described his own feelings about the Dieppe raid 9. He acknowledged that some lessons were learned which were of value in June 1944 “but the price was heavy in killed and prisoners. I believe that we could have got the information and experience we needed without losing so many magnificent Canadian soldiers.” In the words of Lord Lovat “It was a bad plan, and it had no chance of success”

6.

In 1943 Roberts was appointed to command the Canadian Reinforcement units in the United Kingdom and
in 1945 he retired from the army after 35 years of military service. In June 1945 in the King’s birthday honours list he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath (LG 37120 p 3033). He married his second wife Anne Caroline Williams who travelled with him in 1948 when he went to Brussels after accepting the post of Chief Administrative Officer, Central European Division of the Imperial War Graves Commission. In July 1951 “in recognition of distinguished services in the cause of the Allies during the Second World War” he became a Commander of the Legion of Honour and the Croix de Guerre with Palm (CG 29 p 1969). In 1950 he finally retired to Jersey in the Channel Islands.

A humane and caring man he “accepted without protest the artfully disguised effort to make him a scapegoat for Dieppe”. “He could have given excuses to the Chiefs for withdrawing from the operation. ----- But as he demanded courage of his men, he could not ask less of himself”. (Loring Villa p197-198). He died at his home in Jersey on 17 December 1962. In addition to his family the memorial service at Gronville parish church was attended by representatives of the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, the French Government and the Canadian High Commissioner as well as members of the Army Council, Canadian Army3.

Sources:
1Epsom College Registers and Yellow Book.
2Ancestry
3 The Times London; Obituary: 18 December 1962.
   Ibid: Deaths notices; Memorial Service. 22 Dec 1962. 8.
5 TNA WO 95/1085 National Archives: Kew. War Diaries: Canadian Cavalry Brigade.
   5D TNA: Ibid; COS 64th Mrg. “Rutter” Para 3.
   5E TNA: DEFE 2/551 “Rutter” BR 1887. Appx B to Annex 9; P172, paras 1067 & 1067: 2c
12 http://www.gunner.ca: Great Gunners; The Virtual Artillery Museum of Canada.
   LG/CG London Gazette/Canadian Gazette.

Charles S Gallannaugh January 2017

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN HAMILTON ROBERTS (1891-1962), CB, DSO, MC. - MILITARY COMMANDER IN THE ILL-FATED DIEPPE RAID.

“A decorated and highly competent officer, Major-General Roberts refused to blame others or even speak of the Dieppe Raid, accepting instead to take the whole burden upon his shoulders until the day he died.”


When, in August 1942, the Allies launched a raid on the port of Dieppe in Northern France it was to prove a costly disaster, although in retrospect lessons were learned for the later 1944 D-Day invasion. The attack was originally scheduled for July
1942, but was then cancelled, as Field-Marshall Bernard Montgomery advised that the Germans appeared to have discovered the invasion plans. However, Earl Louis Mountbatten, who was Winston Churchill's Advisor on Combined Operations, decided to press ahead even though he had not received authorization from the Chiefs of Staff. The raid was also approved by Winston Churchill who stated that it would “test the enemy defences and discover what resistance would have to be met in the endeavour to seize the port.” The Dieppe raid was the largest combined operation that had taken place up to that point and the main land attack was carried out by men of the 2nd Canadian Division commanded by Major-General J. H. Roberts. John Hamilton ('Ham') Roberts was born in the South-Western Manitoba village of Pipestone on 21 December, 18918 He was the son of W. P. Roberts, an estate agent from Vancouver, and entered Epsom College in 1905. Records show that he was a fine sportsman and adept at rugby, shooting and cricket. He left Epsom in 1907 for Upper Canada College, Toronto, and then the Royal Military College, Kingston. He graduated in 1914 and was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Artillery. During the First World War he served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and while fighting at the Somme in 1916, he won the Military Cross for gallantry. In 1918, he was wounded and returned to England where he served out the war as an artillery instructor. At the commencement of the Second World War Roberts was deployed to Northern France with the 1st Field Brigade of the 1st Canadian Division. In what became known as the Battle of France, his regiment was ordered back to England in hasty retreat. At Dunkirk, Roberts was the only allied commander to withdraw with all his guns intact. One month later he was promoted to Brigadier and appointed commander of the Royal Artillery, 1st Canadian Division, and in April 1942 he was promoted Major-General, taking command of the 2nd Canadian Division.

In August 1942, Major-General Roberts was appointed commander of Operation JUBILEE, the Dieppe Raid. Although he took no part in the planning of this operation, he was determined to make the raid a success. He conducted the entire operation ‘while under heavy enemy fire and with grim resolve’ from the bridge of the destroyer HMS Calpe. The main land attack was carried out by 5,000 men of the 2nd Canadian Division supported by 1,000 Royal Marine Commandos, but unfortunately things went wrong from the start. The landing craft carrying the Canadian troops lined up behind the wrong gun-boat, while the gun-boat leading the commandos unexpectedly ran into five armed German trawlers and was quickly put out of action. The Germans were now warned of the attack and proceeded to machine-gun the Royal Regiment of Canada as they landed. The regiment, ‘delayed by the gun-boat muddle, landed in daylight and paid an appalling price. Of the 27 officers and 516 men landed at Blue Beach, just 3 officers and 57 men got off. A similar picture was seen on Red, White and Green Beaches. The Allies were unable to provide those attempting to land with sufficient cover. Air power was hampered by the fact that the beach was covered by a deliberately laid smoke screen, and the destroyers at sea experienced a similar problem….The tanks that had been loaded for the attack were of little use. Where they got ashore and were not destroyed by the German anti-tank fire, the shingle on the beach meant that movement was difficult at best, impossible at worst. Canadian Royal Engineers tried their best to help out the stricken tanks but in murderous circumstances. 314 Canadian Royal Engineers were landed at Dieppe; 189 were killed or wounded on landing — an attrition rate of 60%.

Perhaps the most significant problem faced by Major-General Roberts, based on HMS Calpe, was the lack of intelligence coming back from the beaches as so many commanders on the beach had been killed. Because of this he clearly knew little of what was going on and it was not for some hours that it became obvious that the attack had failed, and he ordered a withdrawal. Further analysis showed that: ‘at no point had the proposed operation been subjected to a detailed analysis of its aims and the likelihood of achieving them.’ The raid on Dieppe cost many lives. Of the 6,000 men who had taken part in the landings, 4,384 were killed or wounded, and all the equipment landed was lost. Very few of the objectives had been captured and two of the three brigades had been destroyed. The Battle for Dieppe was described as a bloodbath. ‘I have not witnessed images more terrible,’ wrote one German officer. ‘In one landing craft the entire crew of about forty men had been wiped out by a direct hit. On the water we could see bits of wrecks, ships in ruins, corpses floating and soldiers wrestling with death. In Paris there was jubilation. The enemy’s operation was smashed in just over nine hours.’

That Dieppe was a costly failure cannot be denied; its two prime architects being Earl Louis Mountbatten and Field-Marshall Bernard Montgomery. As has been recorded, neither the sincerity nor the professional integrity of these two gentlemen was in question. It was, after all, their business in 1942 to undertake risks that would seem inhuman now. Mountbatten has said, ‘I would do it again’, and Montgomery has said, ‘I believe we could have got the information and experience we needed without losing so many magnificent Canadian soldiers.’ Mountbatten and Montgomery survived the backlash of Dieppe because greater glories obliterated their prominence over the planning of the operation and because a scapegoat happened to be conveniently at hand.

Although Major-General Roberts was removed from command of the 2nd Canadian Division, he was never officially blamed for the failure of the raid and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for his efforts, while France recognised his action by awarding him the cravat of Commander of the Legion d’Honneur and the Croix de Guerre avec Palme. He ‘silently accepted the consequence of command on that fateful day in August 1942, and always refused to blame others or even talk about Dieppe. He retired from the army in 1945 after 35 years’ service. A humane and caring man, he served Canada, the Canadian Army and The Royal Regiment long and well.’ In retirement he was made to suffer for his silence at the hands of a political military clique. These were the insolent who celebrated an anniversary of Dieppe by sending General Roberts a piece of dried-out black bread. He died at his home in Jersey, The Channel Islands, on 17 December, 1962.

Much has been written about the Dieppe Raid. In an article in the North-West Historical Association Newsletter it was written that: ‘one of the most shameful actions to come out of the Dieppe fiasco was the removal of Major-General Roberts from command of the 2nd Canadian Division. General Roberts was made to be the scapegoat for all that went wrong on the whole Dieppe operation, when most of the blame should be laid at the feet of two great English gentlemen, Field-Marshall Bernard Montgomery and Lord Louis Mountbatten…’ The article went on to state that when Montgomery had been called up to take command of the Eighth Army in North Africa he suggested that the Dieppe Raid be called off as the element of surprise was
now lost. However, although Mountbatten knew that the raid was flawed and that surprise had been lost, he made no effort to call the raid off. Somehow he escaped the blame for the Dieppe failure, as did Churchill, and was later appointed Supreme Allied Commander of the South-East Asia Theatre and later Viceroy of India during its move to Independence.
Roberts, Thomas Howard, Frederick

Birth Year: 1876
Enter Epsom College: 1890
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Robertson-Ross, James Ewen

Birth Year: 1890
Enter Epsom College: 1905

Robinson, Frank

Birth Year: 1881
Enter Epsom College: 1891
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Robinson, Geoffrey Stanhope

Birth Year: 1898
Enter Epsom College: 1904
### Robinson, Richard Bertram

**Birth Year:** 1873  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1885  
**House:**  
**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. London Regt., d. on service 1918  
**Rank:** Lt  
**Unit:** ML 62, RNVR  
**Died:** 10/01/18  
**Buried:** Rothesay Cemetery, Buteshire  
**Unit Reference:** L. 757

**Sources**  
Census returns 1881, 91,1901  
Epsom College Register m/s and printed.  
TNA ADM/337/120/427  
Navy Lists 1916 and 17TNA ADM 337/120/427

**ROBINSON Richard Bertram RNVR ML 62**  
10 Jan 1918

Richard Bertram was born 31 July 1873 at Salford, Lancashire (GRO Ref: Sep 1873 Salford 8d 134) the son of Richard Holt Robinson and his wife Sarah Emma nee Fort. His parents had married in 1867 in Altrincham. (GRO Ref: Dec 1867 Altrincham 8a 229). His father was a surgeon. In the 1881 census the family was living at no 25 Crescent, Salford. Richard’s father was 37 year old surgeon, his mother was 37. Seven year old Richard junior had two older brothers: George Alfred Fort aged 12, and James Edward William aged 10. The family employed 3 servants. Richard followed his brothers to Epsom College, Forest House in May 1885. I have not found any information on his brief career at the school. He left in 1887.

In the 1891 census Richard junior was visiting a family in Hampton. His own family was later recorded at Maybury Lodge, Hampton Middlesex.

In the 1901 census the family was living at New Rd, Burnham, Essex. His father was a 57 year old medical practitioner. Sarah was 57. Richard and his brother James were yacht brokers. The family employed 2 servants. He joined the Royal Navy and became a temporary Lieut with a seniority date of 16 Nov 15. He was stationed at the Motor Boat Depot, Southampton as part of Yacht Resource II. He served initially on Motor Launch (ML) 59 and then on ML62. On 21 November 1917 Richard was given three weeks sick leave for a bout of gastritis but on 30 November 1917 he had to be treated for chronic constipation. On 10 December he was discharged to barracks with a view to returning to ML 618 However, he was still unwell and on 28 December he was diagnosed with an intestinal obstruction and sent to the Medical Specialist hospital at Bute. On 8 January 1918 it was reported that he was dangerously ill and he died of cancer in the Royal Naval Hospital at Rothesay on 10 January. He is buried in Rothesay Cemetery, Buteshire, grave L757. His home address was Newington Hall Gardens,

Probate was granted on 16 Oct 1919 to Geoffery Holt Stillwell, banker, of 138 Hamlet Gardens Ravens Court Park, Middlesex. His effects were valued at £155 10s 3d

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**Elizabeth Manterfield**

Robinson, Thomas Humphrey


**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield
Robinson, Thomas Humphrey, brother of P. W. R. (1911), b. 1899, L.S. and W., l. 1916, fruit grower, Cpl. 2/6 R. Warwickshire Regt. 1916-18; The Manor House, Eckington, near Pershore


Rose, Edward Snow, s. of G. E. Rose, stockbroker, of Yoxford, b. 1895, F., prefect, XV, h. XI, l. 1914, St. Bart's Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1918-19; Abbey Mead, Romsey, Hants

Rowe, Gilbert James Burbery, Died of wounds received in World War 1; 2nd Bn, Royal Berks

Rowe, Gilbert James B
Died 17/04/18 aged 19
Buried Les Baraques, France
Reference: P3.RA.G4
ROWE Gilbert James Burberry 2nd Lieut., 2 bn Princess Charlotte of Wales Royal Berkshire Regiment
DOW: 17 April 1918

Gilbert was born in 15 August 1898 (GRO Ref: Sep 1898 Christchurch 2b 673) the son of Henry Burberry Rowe and Jessie Elizabeth his wife. His parents had married in 1894 (GRO Ref: Jun qtr 1894 Pancras London 1b 15). They were living at Pine View, 110 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth. Gilbert was baptised on 11 September 1898 at St John’s Church situated in the same road.

In the 1901 census the family was still at Pine View where Henry was practicing as a dentist. Two year old Gilbert had an older sister Ivy aged 4. The family employed a general servant and a housemaid.

In the 1911 census twelve year old Gilbert and his younger sister Beryl aged 7 were living with their father, a 41 year old dentist. The family had moved to Castlegarth, a substantial fifteen room property at 1 Drummond Road, Boscombe (This is at the junction with Christchurch Road). The property is now the Caledonian Hotel. Gilbert’s aunt, Mary A Rowe, was living with the family and they had 4 servants. Gilbert’s mother was visiting the Forbes family in London and stated that she had three children, all of whom were living.

He was educated at Sangeen School, Manor Road, Bournemouth before his father registered him to enter Propert House, Epsom College. He started in the Lower Fourth Form on 26 Apr 1912. He proved himself to be an able student finishing 9th out of 26 boys in his first term, then 4th out of 18 boys in the Middle Fourth form and 2nd out of 16 boys in the Upper Fourth form in 1914 when he also had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster. He left the College in March 1915 and became a dental apprentice.

He attested for the army at Dukes Road, Kensington on 11 August 1916, and was placed in the army reserve the next day. He served as Pte 764850 in the 2/28th London Regiment (Artists Rifles) where he was in the 2nd battalion C Company but was not mobilised until 13 January 1917.

He applied for a temporary commission in the Regular Army. His Colonel saw him on 8 March 1917 and recommended that he was suitable for an officer cadet unit. Epsom College’s headmaster also confirmed that he was of good character. At the time his permanent address was 1 Drummond Road, Bournemouth, but his address for correspondence was Flat A, Hare Hall Camp, Romford, Essex. (This was on Hare Park in Romford). At his medical he was found to be fit, 5ft10inches tall, weighed 132 lbs, had a 32 inch chest that expanded to 35inches, and had 6/6 vision. His papers were stamped “Strong and Healthy”. He transferred to No 21 Officer Cadet Battalion based at Fleet, Surrey on 7 June 1917. He was discharged to a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment on 24 Sept 1917, but served with the 5th battalion. The Battalion War diary records that 2nd Lieutenants Rowe and Rickword joined for duty on 17 Dec 1917.

From 1-4 February 1918 5 Bn was stationed at Rouge de Bout training on the range and on the assault course. On 5 Feb they moved to Rue de Bataille. The battalion was then transferred to 36 Infantry Brigade and moved to Fleurbaix where they were in reserve. The rest of the month was very quiet and continued to be so until 5 Mar when the enemy increased its artillery activity and carried out several trench raids on the Division’s front as well as the flanks.

On 10 Mar 5 Bn was relieved by 9 Essex and returned to Nouveau Monde, still in reserve but with the responsibility for Lavente defences in case of a hostile attack. There was considerable unrest because of the fear of an enemy attack on the Portuguese division. From 11 until 19 March 5 Bn provided men daily to work under the Commander Royal Engineers on forward defences. Gilbert, Lieutenant Rickword and six other ranks were taking part in these working parties on 17 March when they were wounded by heavy enemy shelling. Gilbert was taken back to one of the military hospitals in Calais where he died from his wounds a month later on 17 April. He is buried in grave III A 4 at Les Baraques Military Cemetery, Sangatte, west of Calais in France.

He was awarded the British War and Victory Medals which were sent to his father at Castlegarth, 1 Drummond Road, Boscombe Hill, Bournemouth.

Sources
CWGC (records him as 2 Bn.)
Epsom College Register M/s and printed.
Epsom College Yellow Book
London Gazette 26 Oct 1917
Medal Index Cards
TNA WO 339/86335 long no. 169546 (records him as 5 Bn.)

Rowell, Basil Alan Herbert

Birth Year: 1900
Regiment: T/Capt. R.G.A. 1914-19
House: HMM?
Rank:
Decorations:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Rowe, Gilbert James Burberry, s. of H. B. Rowe, dentist, of Bournemouth, b. 1898, P., l. 1915, 2nd Lt. R. Berks Regt., d. of wounds received in action in World War I
Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Rowell, Basil Alan Herbert, s. of dr. H. E. Rowell of East Rudham, b. 1886, W., l. 1902, occupation unknown, T/Capt. R.G.A. 1914-19, brother of C. G. S. R. (1907)

Rowell, Cecil George Sidney

Entered Epsom College: 1907

Regiment: Lt. (S.R.) Norfolk Regt. 1914-18

House: HMM? □

Rank

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Rowell, Cecil George Sidney, brother of B. A. H. R. (1900), b. 1893, L.S. and W., l. 1907, mariner, and afterwards served in the R.I.C., Lieut. (A/Capt.) Norfolk Regt. 1914-18

Royle, Admiral Sir Guy Charles Cecil

Entered Epsom College: 1897

Regiment: Admiral, R.N. C. Legion of Merit (U.S.A.), Kt. G.C. Orange Nassau

House: LS and HMM? □

Rank

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh


Guy Charles Cecil Royle (GCR) was born on 18th August 1885 (GRO 2a 343) the son of Dr Arnold Royle C.B., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.L. (1837-1919) and his wife Cicely Jane L. Snow (1860-1936) at Albany Lodge, Esher. Dr Arnold had qualified as a surgeon physician and was a member of the Royal Household. In 1881 the census record has his address as Windsor Castle and his occupation as surgeon with “The Queen, a widow age 61” as “Head of the Household”. In the 1891 census his address was 114 Albany Court Esher and he was described as “Medical not practising, Groom of the Privy Chambers, Clerk of the Robes to the Queen.” His family were with him at the same address, Guy being then aged 5. In 1902 he was appointed “Gentleman Usher to the King” (LG 27336 p4838).

GCR was the third child in the family of four having one brother, Leopold Victor Arnold (1882-1918) and two sisters, Victoria Helen (1884-1972) and Sybil Virginia (1890-1958). Leopold served in the Middle East in the Egyptian Coastguard in 1915 and was awarded the M.C. (LG 29344 p70729). He also received the Order of the Nile 4th Class (LG 30241 p8571) and the Italian Silver Medal for Valour in 1917 (LG 13138 p1897) and then in 1918 he joined the Royal Air Force as a captain in 111 Squadron. He was killed, age 36, in a flying crash on 17th August 1918 and is buried in Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel (CWGC AA 19).

GCR's father entered him for the College and he went there in May 1897 when he was twelve starting in the Lower School in the Lower Third form. He did well in his first year being positioned 2/23 in the form at the end of the year. He then moved on to Carr House2 the following year and in the Middle Fourth form on the classical side he was 9/25. In 1899 in the Shell Form it became clear an education in the classics was not for him and he left the College in July that year going on to HMS Britannia to finish his schooling. He entered the Royal Navy on 15th May 19003a and in the 1901 census was recorded as a Naval Cadet.

HMS Britannia was the name of the Royal Naval training ship at Dartmouth where naval cadets received their early education, with seamanship and mathematics being an important part of their learning. In
GCR’s time there were 3 terms a year and at the end of the young men’s early education they became midshipmen. He clearly did well and went to sea in 1901 at an early stage as a midshipman being confirmed in 1904 as a sub-lieutenant from the acting rank he had been holding (LG 27913 p3360). In March 1906 he was promoted to lieutenant (LG27976 p8810).

His record of early service makes it clear that he was noted as being an outstanding young officer. Comments such as “Very steady and above average”; “Zealous and hard-working”; exceptionally good gunnery officer”; “Very fit. Firm and tactful. Good administrator”; are found in his record3. As a young man he was a keen rugger player and at one time captained the Navy5. In 1906 at the early age of 21 he was given command of torpedo boat No 52 in the Portsmouth flotilla after which he served in the cruiser, HMS Good Hope, before being selected to specialise in gunnery in 1909.

In October 1915 he married Elizabeth Ellis Gilmer (1892-1971), daughter of Charles Dunlop Gilmer (1862-1940)5 who was born in Mauritius and worked as a merchant in Ceylon for a time. At the time of their marriage Elizabeth’s mother had died and it seems that she and GCR may have married abroad as no record has been found in the UK registers. No records of children of the marriage have been found.

When war broke out in 1914, now a Lt Commander (Naval List 1914), he was serving as gunnery officer on HMS Marlborough and was to make his name at the Battle of Jutland. HMS Marlborough was a Dreadnought Battleship of the Iron Duke Class in the 1st Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet and was the Flagship of Admiral Sir Cecil Burney, Second in Command of the Grand Fleet4. In the early evening of May 31st 1916 HMS Marlborough and other ships under the command of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, the Commander in Chief, spotted the German High Seas Fleet and shortly after engaged the enemy. As the battle raged Marlborough fired 162 rounds from her 13.5 inch guns and then at 18.54 in the evening a last torpedo fired by a German destroyer the V48, in her dying moments as she sank, struck the Marlborough and she heeled over to starboard. It was feared she would sink and soon she was struggling to keep up with the Fleet and at 2.30 am Admiral Burney transferred his flag to HMS Revenge. Shortly afterwards, on the orders of Vice Admiral Sir David Beatty. Commander-in-Chief of the British Battle Cruiser Fleet, Marlborough returned to base, fighting off a submarine attack on the way.

In his report after the battle Admiral Burney wrote of his gunnery officer; “It was entirely owing to his organisation and work that the ship fired so extremely well, quickly and accurately during the Battle of Jutland especially so after she had been struck by a torpedo and took up a considerable list. He is a very efficient capable officer”.3b He was immediately promoted to commander (LG 29751 p9079). After the war he was became a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (C.M.G.) as announced in the LG on 17th July 1919 (931461 p9107):

“Commander Guy Charles Cecil Royle R.N.”

“For valuable services as Gunnery Officer of H.M.S. ‘Marlborough,’ 1st Battle Squadron, and as Flag Commander to the Admiral, Second in Command, Grand Fleet.”

From 1917 until 1919 he was Flag Commander to Admiral Sir Charles Madden on HMS Revenge, a Royal Sovereign Class Dreadnought Battleship. From 1919-20 he was fleet gunnery officer on HMS Elizabeth in the Atlantic Fleet and in 1920-22 executive officer of the flagship HMS Iron Duke in the Mediterranean. In 1923 he served in the Naval Ordnance Department and was promoted that June to captain when he was only 373. For the next 3 years from January 1924 until February 1927 he served as Naval Attaché in Tokyo before returning to sea in 1927-29 to command the cruiser HMS Canterbury in the Atlantic Fleet. In 1930-32 he commanded HMS Excellent, the Naval Gunnery School and shore station and at this time a note in his record makes it clear that he was marked for high command with “an exceptional knowledge of gunnery. Generally above average and very pleasant and sociable”.

In 1932 he suffered a slight personal set back in that he was admitted to the Naval Hospital at Haslar following a haematemesis possibly due to a peptic ulcer. After recovery in hospital he was sent for a short convalescence to Osborne House on the Isle of Wight before being declared fir for duty again at the end of October.

In December 1932 until June 1933 he commanded the aircraft carrier HMS Glorious in the Mediterranean establishing his first connection with the Fleet Air Arm. From September 1934 until May 1937 he was Naval Secretary to the First Sea Lord and whilst at the Admiralty in this post he was promoted to rear-
admiral in July 1935 being made C.B. in the Birthday Honours the following year (LG 34299 p4089). A letter in his record from 1937 by Admiral of the Fleet Sir Alfred Chatfield, 1st Sea Lord, describing GCR’s time as his Naval Secretary, explains why he was held in such high esteem:-

“He has been a most successful Naval Secretary. Possessed of sound judgement, high professional knowledge, strong personality and capacity for hard work. He should make a successful Flag Officer in the new and important sea appointment to which he has been appointed. His term of office has been full of difficulty and he has my complete confidence. I recommend him for appointment as Vice-Admiral if he is successful at sea as I feel sure he will be”.

For the next two years from July 1937 until July 1939 he was Rear-Admiral, Aircraft Carriers with his flag first in HMS Courageous and then HMS Ark Royal. At that time Admiral Sir Charles Forbes, Commander of the Home Fleet, wrote a letter to the Admiralty in which he described GCR as “generally being above the average of the 12 senior Rear Admirals” and on 12th January 1939 he became Vice-Admiral3a. Another Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Backhouse, wrote of this spell of service at sea with the Fleet Air Arm; “Gets on well with the senior R.A.F. officers. He is very sociable and entertains a lot. Physically very fit and active and plays games hard as well”. Clearly he was seen as an ideal man to link the RAF and the Fleet Air Arm.

At the outbreak of war he resumed his former appointment as Naval Secretary and then in November 1939 joined the Naval Board as Fifth Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Air Services5. He was responsible for the expansion of the Fleet Air Arm and then in July 1941 “he was lent to the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia for duty as naval member of the Commonwealth Naval Board”.3a He served as First Naval Member of the Board until June 1945 and under his guidance the Royal Australian Navy was expanded and equipped to take part in the latter part of the war in the Pacific against Japan5. He was made a K.C.B in 19415 and promoted to Admiral in October 19423a.

Following his retirement in March 1946 his wartime service was recognised further by the award of two decorations from abroad. In May 1946 it was announced that “The KING has been graciously pleased to give unrestricted permission for the wearing of the following decorations bestowed by the President of the United States of America: For distinguished service to the Allied Cause throughout the war: Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander. 3c (LG 37582 p2559). In October that same year he received the following decoration bestowed by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands: for service to Netherlands Units operating in Australian waters: Knight Grand Cross in the Order of Orange-Nassau3c (LG 37751 p4993). In his retirement he served as Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, a ceremonial position in the House of Lords.

Perhaps the man is best summed up in the words of his close friend Air Chief Marshall Sir Arthur Longmore who wrote an addendum to The Times obituary6 a few weeks after his death:-

“As a lifelong friend since school and ‘Britannia’ days and also for some years afterwards when we served together in the Navy, I can say that I have known few who have been held in such respect and affection by so many in all walks of life with whom he came in contact than Guy Royle. Not only in the Navy, but in Australia where he served as First Naval Member and more recently in the Palace of Westminster he and his wife had many friends”.

Guy Royle collapsed and died on 4th January 1954 aged 69 whilst helping firemen fight a heath fire in the New Forest near his home at Tricketts Cross near Wimborne, Dorset5. His widow Elizabeth Ellis Royle O.B.E. died in Hazlewell Nursing Home in Putney on 6th November 1971 age 797.
“It was entirely owing to his organisation and work that the ship fired so extremely well, quickly and accurately, during the action, especially so after she had been struck by a torpedo and took up a considerable list. He is a very efficient and capable Officer.”
Admiral Sir Cecil Burney. Battle of Jutland.

On May 31 1916, HMS Marlborough, a battleship of the Iron Duke Class, engaged the enemy at the battle of Jutland. At 6.17 pm, an enemy battleship, thought to be of the Kaiser class, came out of the mist at an estimated range of 10,000 yards. The Gunnery Officer, on board HMS Marlborough, Lieutenant-Commander Guy Royle, gave the orders to open fire and seven salvoes were fired in four minutes. The 5th and 7th were clearly seen to hit. “In the 5th salvo a deep red flame could be seen as the salvo struck, and in the 7th salvo a large volume of grey smoke appeared.” Thirty minutes later four salvoes were fired so accurately at a cruiser of the Roon Class that Royle was able to order his gunners “to cease fire, as she appeared completely disabled and sinking fast.” A few minutes later a battleship of the Markgraf Class was seen at 10,750 yards, and immediately put out of action. “In the 6th salvo, a large cloud of grey and white smoke appeared near the foremast. The enemy hauled out of line and turned away, lost in smoke.” However, at 6.54 pm the Marlborough was hit by a torpedo, the explosion causing a list to starboard of seven degrees, and a short while later the Commander-in-Chief ordered the vessel to withdraw from the conflict. Guy Royle was promoted Commander and appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George “for valuable services as Gunnery Officer of HMS Marlborough, 1st Battle Squadron, and as Flag Commander to the Admiral, Second in Command, Grand Fleet.”

Guy Charles Cecil Royle was born on August 17, 1885, the son of Dr Arnold Royle C.B., of Esher, Surrey. He entered Epsom College at the age of eleven, initially in the lower school, and three years later departed for H.M.S. Britannia, the naval training school for officers, at Dartmouth, Devon. In 1900, he joined the Royal Navy with a commission as a Midshipman.

Guy Royle’s career in the Royal Navy was spectacular. His success during the First World War, when he served as a Gunnery Officer in the Grand Fleet, undoubtedly led to his appointment in 1923 as Deputy Director of Naval Ordnance, and his posting, one year later, to the British Embassy at Tokyo as Naval Attaché. In 1927 he was given command of the cruiser HMS Canterbury, in 1930 the shore establishment HMS Excellent, and in 1932 the aircraft carrier HMS Glorious. From 1934 until 1937 he served as Naval Secretary to the First Lord of the Admiralty and was then appointed Vice-Admiral commanding the aircraft carriers, until the outbreak of World War II. In 1939, he returned briefly to the Admiralty as Naval Secretary before his appointment as Fifth Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Air Service, and Chief of the Australian Naval Staff (1941-1945). The following year he was appointed Knight Grand Cross in the Order of Orange-Nassau with swords (ON) for service to the Netherland’s Units operating in Australian waters. In 1941 he was knighted and one year later was promoted Admiral. From 1941 until 1945 he was appointed First Naval Member, the Commonwealth Naval Board. Admiral Sir Guy Royle retired from the Royal Navy in 1946 and was appointed Secretary to the Lord Great Chamberlain for a short period before his final appointment as Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, a ceremonial position in the House of Lords. He served in that office from 1946 until 1953. One year later he collapsed and died while helping to put out a heath fire near his home at Wimborne Minster in Dorset.
William Charles Eric Rudkin (WCR) was born in Elvington, Yorkshire on 22nd February 1875, eldest child of Dr George M.A. Rudkin LRCPI, LRCSI, and his wife Amy Frances Hearn. George Rudkin was born in Cork in Ireland and educated at Trinity College Dublin as was his father before him. The history of the Rudkins of Carlow feature in Burke’s Landed Gentry of Ireland (Ancestry).

Dr George Rudkin moved to England and first practised in Yorkshire where his three eldest sons were born. His second son Hugh went to Blundell’s and Sandhurst later serving as a Major in the Royal Irish Regiment in the Great War. George Drury Rudkin CIE, OBE, also went to Blundell’s and then up to Balliol College Oxford, later becoming a distinguished member of the Indian Civil Service. The family
moved to Devon in due course where Dr George practised in Teignmouth and two more children, Gerald Fitzgerald and Amy Kathleen were born there. Gerald left Blundell's for the London Hospital where he qualified in medicine before joining the RAMC. He served as a Colonel in the Great War being awarded the DSO in November 1916 whilst commanding a Field Ambulance with the Salonika Army.

William’s father, entered his name for Epsom College in 1887 and he was placed in the Upper Fourth form and Wilson House. At the end of his first year he came 8th in a class of 17 boys. However he did not stay very long at the school and left in 1881. The family does not appear in the 1891 census, possibly because they were visiting Ireland at that time, but in 1895 WCR was commissioned in the Royal Artillery as a 2/Lt being promoted Lieutenant on 15th June 1898 (LG 26983 p3985). He served in the South African War, 1899-19013 taking part in actions in the Orange Free State, the Transvaal near Johannesburg, Pretoria and Diamond Hill and also in the Cape Colony south of the Orange River. He was awarded the Queen’s Medal in 1900 with six clasps and in July 1901, shortly after he had been promoted to Captain, he was mentioned in despatches by Lord Kitchener (LG 27331 p4550) the citation reading: “Did very well on the 22nd March bringing his guns up after a fast 12 miles under long range rifle fire and affording efficient support to the mounted troops”.

Unfortunately towards the end of the war on the 15th June 1901 he was severely wounded. A statement of care2 by a Lieutenant Parry RAMC regarding Lt WE Rudkin RHA dated 2nd July 1901 reads as follows:

“Disease – gunshot wound of knee, left. This officer was transferred from Utrecht (SA) on 19th June 1901. He received his wound in action at Elandsberg Nek on 15th June 1901. The bullet struck the upper part of the tibia on the inner side, glancing upwards, passed into the knee joint. The x-rays showed the bullet on the outer side of the joint at the upper level of the patella. The knee joint was opened and the bullet removed. Synovitis still persists with weakness of the joint. This officer will be unfit for duty for a considerable period. I recommend leave to England for the benefit of his health”.

The report is of particular interest in that it must record one of the earliest references to the use of x-rays by the military in the field. X-rays had only been discovered by Roentgen in December 1895 and it was fortunate indeed for WCR and his surgeon that the equipment was available to him at such an early stage of development and in such circumstances. He was granted six months leave in England and in October 1901 attended a Medical Board in Victoria Street, London which declared him fit for duty and offered a “wound gratuity” of £70 9s 4d (£7100 in 2013). It seems unlikely that in the more cossetted era of today he would have been returned to duty with such alacrity, if at all.

However the sequelae of such a serious injury to the knee were more serious than the optimists who conducted the first Medical Board thought and almost certainly led to lifelong disability. In 1903 he appeared before another such Board complaining of inability to flex the knee fully and of pain in and around the joint. It was noted that the “wound impedes him very much when walking or running, ordinarily he does not show any lameness”. The conclusion reached was that “----the effects are not of a very severe nature but are likely to be permanent. ---- Not incapacitated for military duty at present”. His application for a grant in recognition of the disability was refused.

He was Adjutant of the Royal Artillery from 27th April 1904 until 26th January 19062 and then on relinquishing this position he served in command with the West African Frontier Force in Southern Nigeria until January 19083. In March 1907 he was mentioned in despatches when the Governor of Southern Nigeria wrote to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, The Rt Hon Lord Elgin P.C. K.G., giving details of the uprising in southern Nigeria which took place between June 1906 and March 1907. In his letter he wrote “I invite attention to the services of the Officers and men ---- particularly those of Capt. WE Rudkin ----”. The Governor attached the despatch which had been sent to him from the Officer Commanding the Southern Nigeria Regiment, Lt. Colonel H.C. Moorhouse (LG 28119 p1964).

The Owa Column as it was known was sent to Agbor in Southern Nigeria in response to the murder of the District Commissioner Mr O.S. Crewe Read (LG 28119 p1964). It was commanded by Captain Rudkin who had under his command 13 Officers and 434 other ranks. The operation took place in the rainy season, in thick jungle, against determined opposition. Casualties were 16 dead and 92 wounded but in view of the situation, Lt Colonel Moorhouse, did “not consider them at all excessive”. After outlining the details of the operation he ended his despatch:
“I wish to bring to the notice of your Excellency the good services rendered by the following Officers, non-commissioned officers and men: [The first person he mentioned was WCR.]

Captain W.E. Rudkin, Royal Field Artillery, acted with great promptitude on receipt of the news of Mr Crowe Read’s murder, and subsequently commanded the expedition until its successful close with determination, zeal and military skill in spite of great difficulties of country and climate. – etc.” For his service in West Africa WCR received the Queen’s medal with clasp.

He was again laid low in July 1907 when he developed an abscess in his right shoulder2, no doubt as a result of the hardship he had suffered in the jungle earlier in the year. The pus which required drainage tracked down to his forearm and affected movement in his wrist and fingers. On the 9th July he was declared unfit for duty and was again moved back to England. He came under the care of a physician in Harley Street who diagnosed septicaemia due to infection with the bacterium staphylococcus pyogenes, a condition which at that time, before the era of penicillin, was invariably fatal as indeed it often is today. However following a course of injections, details of which are not recorded, he recovered and in February 1908 a Board in Davenport declared him fit for duty once again.

In March 1908 he was created a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) (LG 28119 p 1966). “William Charles Eric Rudkin, Capt. Royal Artillery (late employed with the West Africa Frontier Force). In recognition of his services with the Owa Column during operations in Southern Nigeria”. The DSO was instituted in September 1886 and the Bar in August 1916. It was awarded to commissioned Officers for “rewarding individual instances of meritorious or distinguished service in war”.

Following his experience in West Africa and after his recovery from septicaemia he wrote to the War Office requesting transfer to the Royal Field Artillery in India. He served in the Punjab in the III Brigade of 62nd Battery RFA, giving his address as Campbellpore, Punjab, India4. At the time of the 1911 census in England he and his unit were on HMS Rewa at sea on route to England. He was promoted to Major in November that year (LG 28562 p9447).

The First World War was shortly to send him into action once again. In June 1915 he was promoted to Brevet Lt. Colonel just before he was sent to France in July and then T/Lt. Colonel from November until moved to substantive rank in June 1916. He was attached to 15th Brigade RFA in the 5th Division which was involved in some of the heaviest fighting around Ypres, Vimy Ridge and the Somme. He was briefly admitted to St. John’s Ambulance Hospital in January 1917 following action in the front line and in July of that year was wounded by gas and was assessed in the field, remaining on duty2. After a short spell of leave in Paris he returned to action only to be wounded in the right arm in October, fortunately not seriously. By this time he was attached to HQ 38 Division as Commander Royal Artillery (CRA).

In early 1918 he went on leave to England and attended a machine gun course. He returned to France in March still CRA in 38 Division and was wounded again in April by gas on this occasion needing treatment in the base hospital. At the end of the month he was posted to 75th Brigade in the field and assumed command. Finally in the last months of the war he was promoted T/Brigadier-General whilst serving in command of 57th Division British Armies in France from 16th August 19183.

The 57th (2nd West Lancashire) Division was part of the Third Army under Lieutenant General Sir Julian Byng, later to become Governor-General of Canada. The Division took part in the battle of the Scarpe, 26th to 30th August, the battle of Drocourt-Queant, 2nd to 3rd September, the battle of Canal du Nord, 27th September to 1st October and the battle of Cambrai which the 57th together with 3rd Canadian Division captured. Finally between 2nd and 11th of November, now with the 5th Army, the Division participated in the final advance in Artois (LLT).

In the New Year’s Honours list in 1919 WCR was created C.M.G. and in June was promoted Brevet Colonel. That month he became one of the King’s Aide-de-Camps. He had been mentioned in despatches on seven occasions during the course of the war (Times obit.).

In January 1920 he wrote to the War Office requesting leave to retire. This was granted from 10th January 1920 with the honorary rank of Brigadier-General. He was initially awarded a pension of £525 annually but he applied to have a commutation and took £2607 (£110,000 in 2013) as a lump sum in lieu of £200 of his pension net pay. This reduced his annual pension to £325 from March 1920 (£14,000). He
lived then in Seymour St., London W2 and clearly struggled to make ends meet financially. The situation became worse when the Pension Control Board reduced his pension as from 1st July 1924 to £233-10s-0d “on account of the variation in the cost of living”. The result was that in December 1925 he was declared bankrupt (OR No 1317 of 1925).

Somehow, in spite of his country’s parsimonious regard for the courageous service he had rendered with such distinction and at great personal cost for 25 years, an approach that the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan will recognise today, he soldiered on. On 4th February 1929 in the Church of St George, Santa Cruz, Tenerife he married a Canadian, Emily Mabel Stark, widow of J D. Billard of New York.

Sadly their married life together was short. On 1st January 1930 Brigadier-General William C.E. Rudkin died age 55 following an operation at the Royal Northern Hospital, London (Times obit.). His wife died in 1945 in Los Angeles age 78.

Sources:
1Epsom College Yellow Books
London Gazette (LG)
2The National Archive (TNA) WO 374/59643
3The V.C. & D.S.O. Vol. I 1886-1915 O’Moore Creagh & Humphris
Printed by Naval & Military Press Ltd.
4Epsom College Register 1855-1905 & 1855-1924
The Long Long Trail (LLT)
5Who was Who Online edn 2014
Obituary The Times 4th Jan 1930 p.12.

Brigadier-General William Rudkin

Ancestry

Salmon, Norman, Guy Hawtrey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
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<td>1897</td>
<td>T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18</td>
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Decoration: 

Researcher:

Sandberg, The Rev. Kenneth Graham

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. The Buffs 1914-15
House: HMM?
Rank: T/2nd Lt. The Buffs 1914-15

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Sandford-Smith, John Morton

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Gunner, M.G.C. Accidentally killed on duty in World War 1
House: W
Rank: Gnr

Died: 28/08/16 aged 19
Buried: Luton Church Burial Ground
Reference: Z U 14

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Sandford-Smith, John Morton

Machine Gun Corps (Motor)
28 August 1916

John was born on 28 June 1897 (GRO Ref: Sept 1897 Lewisham 1d 1194 ) the third child of Henry Sandford-Smith MRCS and his wife Ethel Gertrude nee Sharp. His parents had married on 12 April 1893 at St Mary Abbotts, Kensington.(GRO Ref: Jun 1893 Kensington 1a 178).

In 1901 the family was living at Ellerslie, High Street, Eltham. Henry was a 36 year old medical practitioner, Ethel was 31. Three year old John had two older sisters Rose Audrey aged 7 and Joan Margaret aged 4. His maternal aunt, Lizzie Sharp, 42, was living with them. The family employed a cook, a maid and a nurse.

In spring 1911 John was at Hillcrest School 46-48 Earls Avenue, Folkestone. His parents were living in an eleven-roomed house, The Courtyard, Eltham. The census return confirms that they had had 5 children all living. Henry was a 46 year old surgeon, Ethel was 40. John’s sisters were at home and he also had two younger brothers James Maberly 8 and Richard aged 2. The family employed a nurse, cook and a maid.

John entered Epsom College Wilson House on 20 September 1911 having won a junior scholarship. In 1912 he finished 20th out of 26 boys but had been absent for the summer term. He had a good year in 1913, coming 7th out of 22 boys in the Lower Fifth form and passing his School Certificate. He came 8th out of 11 boys in the Upper Fifth form in July 1914 but managed to attain his Oxford and Cambridge Higher School Certificate.

He enlisted at Coventry. The Motor Branch of the MGC was formed by absorbing the Motor Machine Gun Service (MMGS) and the armoured car squadrons of the disbanded Royal Naval Armoured Car Service. His service papers have not been found . He was killed accidentally 28 August 1916 but the details have not been established.

He is buried in Luton Church burial ground, plot Z U 14. CWGC records the family’s address as 26 The Courtyard, Eltham.

Sources:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Researcher</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sandford-Smith, John Morton</td>
<td>T.D.</td>
<td>1897</td>
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<td>s. of dr. H. Sandford-Smith of Eltham, b. 1897, W., l. 1914, Gunner M.G.C., accidentally killed on duty in World War I.</td>
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<td>Sandiland, Ernest Littleton</td>
<td>T.D.</td>
<td>1894</td>
<td>1894</td>
<td>T/Brevet Col. R.A.M.C.</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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</table>

**Reference:**
Pier 2C 3A
SAUNDERS George James Rich Captain, Prince of Wales Volunteers South Lancashire attached 7th Bn Leicester Regt
Killed: Tues 26 Sept 1916
George was born on 14 May 1896 the son of Dr Edward Argent Saunders, J.P., and his wife Louisa Gertrude nee Churchward. His parents married in 1884 (GRO Ref June 1888 Reading 2c 651).
In the 1891 census, the family was living at 1 Apley Terrace, Pembroke. George’s father was a 39 year old surgeon and medical practitioner. His mother was 36. Edward Argent (known as Argent) was 5, Arthur Patrick (known as Patrick) 4 and William 3. Alice Butler 32 and Hugh Hawell 17 were visiting the family. The family employed a cook and a nurse.
In the 1901 census the family was living at the same address. George’s father was listed as a medical practitioner. 4 year old George William was at home with his older brother, aged 13 and sister Ivy (Ivetta) aged 9. The family employed a governess, maid and cook. 15 year old Argent Saunders was boarding at Epsom College and 14 year old Patrick was at school in Greenwich. George entered the first form of Epsom College, Wilson House on 21 Jan 1908. He was not an outstanding student, usually ranking exactly half way in his year, but he did have a piece of work sent for the Headmaster’s approval when he was in Shell form and in the Lower Fifth. He was a member of the OTC and attained his certificate A in May 1914. He left in July 1914. He applied for a temporary commission on 28 September 1914. At his medical board he was found to be 71ins tall, with a 32½in chest that could expand to 36ins. He had a good physical development and was fit. He had never suffered from any serious illness or injury. He had normal hearing and “sufficient teeth”. He needed spectacles as his vision was 6/24 in his right eye and 6/18 in his left, but this could be corrected to 6/6 with glasses. He was considered suitable for a permanent commission.
He was promoted to temporary Captain on 14 August 1916 and attached to the 7th Bn Leicester Regiment, commanding C Coy which was part of 110 Brigade, 21st Division.
In September 1916 7 Bn was in action at Gueudecourt. One of the objectives was to take Gird Trench and then the village of Gueudecourt. George was killed by a shell in Fiers on 26 September before the attack started. Administration of his effects, valued at £349 14s 2d, was granted to his father on 18 June 1917.
He was awarded 1914 and 1915 medals as well as the British War Medal and Victory medal
He is remembered on the Thiepval memorial to the missing on the Somme, panels 7a and 7b, and is commemorated at St. John’s Church, where he also has a stained glass window dedicated to him.

Sources:
Census returns
CWGC
Epsom College Register printed and m/s
London Gazette 16 Oct 1914
Medal Index Cards
WO339/25325 long no. 46264
### Saunders: William Henry Price

<table>
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<th>Birth Year:</th>
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**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

*Saunders, William Henry Price, brother of E. A. S. (1899), b. 1888, W., XV, l. 1907, Middx Hosp. and Lond. U., M.B., B.S., d. 1921*

### Sawrell, Horace Dewick

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<td>HMM? □</td>
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**Researcher:**

*Wilson House War Memorial*

Sayres, Richard John

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1912
- **Regiment:** 2nd Lt. (S.R.) R.G.A. 1918
- **Birth Year:** 1899
- **Rank:** HMM?
- **Decoration:** Forestry consultant
- **House:** XV

Scales, Cedric Kennedy

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1910
- **Regiment:** T/Surg. R.N. 1918
- **Birth Year:** HMM?
- **Rank:** HMM?

Scanlan, James Ernest

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1905
- **Regiment:** T/Surg. Lt. R.N. 1915-18
- **Birth Year:** HMM?

Scatchard, Capt Thomas

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1890
- **Regiment:** Capt. R.A.M.C., killed in action, 1914
- **Birth Year:** 1878
- **Rank:** Capt
- **Scatchard, Thomas**
  - Died: 08/09/14
  - Aged: 36
  - Unit: RAMC
  - Buried: Bellot, France

**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

**SCATCHARD Thomas Captain, RAMC**
**Killed: 8 Sept 1914**
Thomas was born 6 Jul 1878 at Boston Spa, Yorkshire, the youngest son of Thomas Edward Scatchard MRCS LRCP (1845-1922) and Martha nee Theakston (1849-1938). The family was living in Clifford, near Boston Spa.

In the 1881 census Thomas aged 2 was living in Main Road, Boston Spa with his parents and two older brothers, James Percival aged 7 and Robert Edward aged 4. His father was recorded as a Medical General Practitioner. The family employed a cook plus a nurse-come-housemaid.

His father registered Thomas to join his brothers at Epsom College, in Wilson House on 18 September 1890. At the time they were living at Longfield, Boston Spa, Yorkshire. Thomas was recorded at the College in the 1891 census. He left at Christmas 1894 and went on to Leeds Medical School.

In the 1901 census he was a medical student boarding at 38 Springfield Place, Leeds. He passed his Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries (LSA) London in 1902. He later acted as house physician at Leeds Infirmary and was house surgeon to Becket’s Hospital, Barnsley. His parents were living in High Street, West Tadcaster. Thomas’s brother, James aged 27, who was a surgeon was living with his parents.

On 5 Jul 1905 he enlisted into the RAMC as Lieutenant. and was gazetted Lieutenant on 31 Jul. The announcement appeared in the British Medical Journal 5 Aug 1905 and the London Gazette 16 Feb 1906.

He joined his regiment at Aldershot where he served for 18 months, before going to India for 5 1/2 years. He was stationed at Lucknow, Agra, Kailana and Ranikhet. Whilst in India he met Ada Mary Hervey whom he married at Agra on 12 Nov 1907. She was the youngest daughter of Col. Hugh de la Motte Hervey, of 13th Bengal Lancers and granddaughter of General Hervey, C.B. They had one daughter Phyllis May Lindsay, born on 20 Dec 1908. On 31 Jan 1909 Thomas was promoted to Captain.

In the 1911 census Thomas was listed with the RAMC in India.

He returned to England in 1912, and served the nine months’ course at Millbank, London for promotion to Major. He then worked for a year at Connaught Hospital, Aldershot, where he was in charge of the Salvarsan department and was an examiner in the subject for candidates seeking promotion to Captain. (Salvarsan was a drug used for treating syphilis.)

When war was declared in August 1914 he went to France with the 26th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery 16 Aug. 1914, as part of the British Expeditionary Force. He was killed, along with Gen Finlay and Col Grant Duff, by a shell exploding over the Brigade staff while marching from Choisey and Bosseville near Sablonnieres on 8 Sept 1914.

Thomas had been a keen sportsman and enjoyed shooting, riding and fishing and was a good lawn tennis player. He loved animals especially horses.

The following report appears on p174” the Great War and the RAMC.”

“Fighting was by no means unimportant. It had seen, too, the Petit Morin crossed, at least one bridge over the Marne seized, and the way cleared for the morrow. Though rain now poured in torrents on our bivouacs, there was no damping the ardour of the men of our fighting divisions.

So many small sharp actions naturally enough involved British casualties, and therefore a rather busy day for the field ambulances marching with the British Expeditionary Force. But, as one would expect, for those medical units on the eastern flank of our pursuing force the day was comparatively uneventful. No. 1 Field Ambulance, however, saw a considerable amount of fighting, and was under fire on numerous occasions. As the First Division approached the Petit Morin it came under heavy shrapnel fire and suffered casualties, the RAMC suffering also, for Captain T. Scatchard, attached 24th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, was killed, and Captain G. R. Pounton, attached 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, was wounded. The latter was picked up by the 3rd Cavalry Field Ambulance. “

Thomas was buried with 8 other men who lost their lives on the same day. His grave is in the Bellot Communal Cemetery, Seine-et-Marne, France, Grave 3. He is also remembered on the Boston Spa memorial and on his parents tombstone in St Mary’s the Virgin church cemetery Boston Spa. He was awarded the British war and victory medals posthumously and a clasp for 1914.

At the time of his death, Thomas’s home was Tavistock, South Farnborough, Hampshire. Probate was granted at London on 30 November 1914 to his mother Martha, with Marianne Selkirk (wife of John Selkirk) and his brother James Percival Scatchard, physician. His effects were valued at £1190 14 shillings 5 pence (approx 72p).

There is an obituary to him in Epsomian Magazine 1914:

“I well remember Tom Scatchard as a bright little fellow in Wilson house, the youngest of three brothers, sons of a doctor at Boston Spa. He was always keen, plucky and good tempered. He was not very robust nor had he the ability and resolute industry of his eldest brother, and he left Epsom rather young before attaining a high position in the school. His career was one of steady progress and increasing promise, and he had an excellent record for unselfish devotion to duty. He was a most lovable disposition and it is sad to think that he was one of the first to fall of the RAMC while bravely tending the wounded on the field of battle. Our most sincere sympathy and condolences are offered to his sorrowing family and he is one whom Epsom College will remember with honour and pride.” TNH S-P

A tribute appeared in the Epsomian Feb 1915 by Capt GR Ward RAMC: “I was very near when Capt Scatchard was killed. It was near a little place called Beauchien and the whole brigade was advancing along the road in column. Suddenly some guns which-as I heard- we had reason to suppose the French had silenced, opened fire and Scatchard fell mortally wounded. I had seen him many times during the campaign, although I did not know he was an OE (Old Epsomian) and it was shock to find him dead by the roadside, a shock which keeps the whole day sharp in my memory. He was buried, I believe, nearby where he fell but we had to pass on to help other wounded-the Germans were in full flight at this time.”

His daughter became a nun in 1932, sister Mary Patience, and was buried at Laleham Abbey in 1956.

Sources:
Scatchard, Capt. Thomas, R.A.M.C., brother of the above, b. 1878, W., l. 1894, Leeds Gen. Inf., L.S.A., killed in action 1914

Thomas Scatchard

Wilson House War Memorial

The Great War and the R.A.M.C
RAMC profile of Thomas Scatchard LMSSA on the RAMC in the Great War website
Bond of Sacrifice
BMD
Census Y 91,01,
CWGC
De Ruvigny's
Epsom Coll Register
Epsomian
Medal card
Parish Reg
Probate
Soldiers died
TNA file None
Times
UK roll of honour 1914-24

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Thomas Scatchard
Schall, Henry Frederick

Schall, Henry Frederick

SCHALL Henry Frederick
150th Rotherham Heavy Battery, RGA
DOW 24 Sept 1916

Henry was born on 1 July 1891 in North Walsham, Norfolk, the only child of Christian Frederick Schall and his wife Margaret Frances nee Burton. His parents had married in Kensington in 1885 (GRO Ref: Jun 1885 Kensington 1a 251). In 1891 Henry’s parents were living on their own means at Cromer Road in North Walsham, Norfolk. Christian Schall was 28 years old and Margaret was 25. A cousin, Thomas Taylor who was 17 years old was living with them. They employed a cook, a maid and a groom.

In 1896 the family was living at Bleak House in the village of Catfield in Norfolk. By 1901 the family had moved to Cambridge Gardens, Marlborough Rd, Richmond on Thames, Surrey. Annie Lymes, a 25 year old niece was living with them and Frederick Muller, 55, a German banker was visiting. They employed a cook, a parlour maid and a housemaid. Henry was a pupil at St Vincent’s School in Eastbourne.

Henry entered Epsom College Forest House on 18 January 1907. At the time his father registered him, they were living at 16 Rood Lane, London. However, Henry’s stint at the College was short as left at Easter due to ill health. According to the obituary in the Cheltenham Chronicle he had been entered for Harrow but owing to ill health was unable to proceed there and had completed his studies with a tutor. He went to New Zealand with his mother, returning to Plymouth from Wellington, New Zealand on the ship Corinthia on 1 August 1910. By then he was strong enough physically to enter the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. Here he served in the OTC from 1910-1913 which was attached to 3 Wiltshire Regiment.

In the 1911 census the family was living in a 14 roomed house at 42 Hamilton Terrace, Marylebone, London NW. Christian Schall was described as 48 years old and an importer and exporter of pig tin, Margaret Frances was 45. Henry aged 19 was a student of agriculture. Alice Williams a 25 year old Swiss operatic singer was visiting them. They employed a cook, a parlour maid and a housemaid.

Henry joined the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) as Gunner (Private) 959 in 6 July 1915. He gave his permanent address as The Manor House, Somerford Keynes, Cricklade, Wiltshire but gave 42 Hamilton Terrace as his address for correspondence. He was appointed as Acting Bombadier from 16 Oct 1915 until 3 Dec 1915 when he was discharged to a commission in the RGA Special Reserve. His Headmaster at St Vincent’s confirmed that he had attained a good standard of education when he left the school. His medical showed that he was 5ft 11ins tall, had a 35in chest with a 3 inch expansion, a good physical development and was fit for active service. His eyesight was 6/18 in his left eye and 6/6 in his right. After serving 151 days at home he went to France on 29 July 1916. He died of multiple wounds on 24 September 1916 at 38 Casualty Clearing Station, Heilly about 10
km south west of Albert, France. He is buried at Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-L’Abbe plot IV G 29 which was next door to the hospital. A brother officer wrote “He was absolutely fearless and lived and died a brave officer and a gallant gentleman.” He was awarded the British War and Victory medals. Administration of his estate valued at £999 14s 6d was granted to his father on 2 November 1916. His address was given as the Manor House, Somerford Keynes, Somerset. His mother was living at 1 De Walden Court, Eastbourne. He is also remembered on the Somerford Keynes war memorial.

Sources
Census returns
Cheltenham Chronicle 4 Nov 1916.
CWGC
Epsom College register printed and m/s
Kelly’s Directory 1896
Medal Index cards
Probate
Times 31 Oct 1916
TNA WO 339/50940 long no. 121455

Schall, Henry Frederick, s. of C. F. Schall, occupation unknown, of Rood Lane, E.G., b. 1891, F., l. 1907, occupation unknown, T/2nd Lt. R.G.A., d. of wounds in World War.

Schokman, Conrad Clive

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Schokman, Conrad Clive, s. of dr. G. P. Schokman of Baling, b. 1897, W., l. 1916, Lieut. I.A. 1917-22

Scollick, Lawrence Trevor

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<th>Scollick, Laurence Trevor</th>
<th>Unit: 2nd Bn, Durham LI</th>
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<td>Died 26/06/17 aged 21</td>
<td>Buried Maroc, France</td>
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Reference: P2.RF.G15.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

SCOLLICK Laurence Trevor 2nd Lt
2bn DLI
26 June 1917

Laurence was born on 2 May 1896(GRO Ref: Jun 1896 Kingston 2a 364) the younger son of Arthur James Scollick and his wife Marion nee Robinson. He was baptised at St Paul’s Church, Hook, Surrey on 31 May 1896, and at this time his parents were living at Boldrewood, Ditton Hill, Surbiton. They had married on 21 June 1892 at All Saints Notting Hill. His brother Douglas Arthur had been born in May 1893 in Merton. Arthur was a varnish manufacturer although at the time of Laurence’s baptism he described himself as a gentleman.
In 1901 they were living at Penshurst, Sheridan Road, Merton. Arthur was a 43 year old varnish manufacturer. Marion was 318 Douglas was 7 and Laurence 4.

Laurence was educated at Beacon School in Bexhill on Sea in Sussex from May 1903 to April 1909 before he entered Epsom College Lower School Upper III form on 3 May 1909. His father of 8 Mayfield Road, Merton Park, Wimbledon registered him for the school. He was recorded in the Upper School in the 1911 census where he was in Forest House. He did not flourish
academically whilst at school. He was placed in the Modern side of the school which was designed to prepare boys for a mercantile career rather than going into the professions. In July 1910 he came 17th out of 22 boys in the Modern Middle II form. He then spent two years in the Modern Middle I form, coming 17th out of 20 boys in 1911 but rising to 4th out of 24 boys in July 1912 when he left. He had not been a member of the School OTC. In 1911 his parents were still living in the 8 roomed house in Mayfield Road. They had been married for 18 years and had 2 children, both living.

After leaving school Lawrence entered the Admiralty as a clerk on 13 Jan 1914. He resigned his position voluntarily on 28 June 1915 and joined the 24th(S) Royal Fusiliers as Pte 3616. At the time he was living at his parent's home Elmswood, New Malden. He gave his father as next of kin. He also had a medical on that day. He served in the trenches in France with his battalion from 15 Nov 1915 until he was discharged to a temporary commission and a period of training in England on 27 April 1916.

He could not be considered for the Royal Military College (RMC) at Sandhurst without a nomination from his headmaster and was at a disadvantage because he had not served in the school's OTC. The Headmaster of Epsom College provided a reference, albeit low key. He described Laurence as having “good average ability, not more but not less than others. He left Epsom before the new Headmaster had been appointed and his housemaster had left. However, others have told me that he was undistinguished for good or ill. He held no conspicuous position in the school and would have no claim to a nomination in pre-war conditions. His fitness [for a commission] can be judged only by his record in the army.” He was accepted for the Royal Military Commission Sandhurst on 7 Sept 1916 in the Officer Cadet Battalion K Company and took up his regular commission into the Durham Light Infantry (DLI) on 27 April 1917. He returned to the front on 12 June 1917. On the night of Tuesday 26 June 1917 the enemy was very active from midnight until 3am, sending aerial darts and short range mortars (minenwerfer) at the battalion front line. Although the British retaliated effectively with field guns and “heavies”, 2nd Lieutenants Scollick and Turner were killed.

His effects included a note case, a leather purse, a cigarette holder, a gold ring, 2 keys, a fountain pen and holder, 1 advance book and a cheque book. He died intestate and was unmarried.

He is buried in Maroc British cemetery in Grenay (15 km south east of Bethune), France, grave E 15. He was awarded the 1915 star, the British and Victory medals,

Sources
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
2bn DLI war diary 26 - 27 June 1917
Epsom Register m/s
The Times 23 July 17
TNA WO 339/58041 long no 130735

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Scollick, Lawrence Trevor, s. of A. J. Scollick, landowner, of Ditton Hill, b. 1896, L.S. and F., l. 1912, T/znd Lt. D.L.I., killed in action 1918

Scott, Evelyn Dennis
Decorations: O.B.E.
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: House: HMM? 
1903 1903
Regiment: T/Surg. Lt. R.N. 1914-18 Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Scott, Frank Sholl
Decorations: 
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: House: HMM? 
1894 1894
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18 Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Scott, Frank Sholl
Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: House: HMM? 
1894 1894
Regiment: T/Lt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18 Rank

Researcher:

Scott, John Edward

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Regiment: T/Capt. Munster Fusiliers 1914-18
Rank: M.C.

Researcher:

Scott, Philip Dennis

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1916-18
Rank: M.C.

Researcher:

Scott, Stanley Henry

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Rank: M.C.

Researcher:

Seaton, Arthur Edward

Birth Year: 1885
Entered Epsom College: 1899
Regiment: T/Lt. R.N. 1917-20
Rank: M.C.

Researcher:

Seaton, Geoffrey Scoresby

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1896
Rank: Pte
Geoffrey was born on 2 Feb 1884, Kingsbridge, Devon, England (GRO Ref: Mar 1884, Kingsbridge, 5b 207) the son of William Scoresby Seaton and his wife, Ellen Clarke nee Pitts. In 1891 Geoffrey and his brother Arthur were staying with their mother at a cousin's house at 4 Spencer Terrace in Plymouth. His father was managing the Bristol and West of England Bank at 12 Fore Street, Kingsbridge. Geoffrey's one year old sister Ellen was with him in Kingsbridge, with a nurse girl, a cook and a housemaid.

Geoffrey entered Carr House, Epsom College on 8 May 1896. At the end of the summer term he finished 16th out of 24 boys in the Lower Third form so he re-took the year, finished top and won the form prize.

In 1898, in the Lower Fourth form, he slipped back to 15th place out of 25 boys but he had a piece of work shown to the Headmaster, and won the Lower School elocution prize. He tended to be in the lower part of his class for the rest of his school career but managed to pass his Lower School Certificate in 1901.

In the 1901 census, aged 15, he was recorded as a boarding pupil at Epsom. His parents and sister, 11 year old Ellen, were still living in Fore Street, Kingsbridge.

Geoffrey left the College in July 1901. His brother Arthur Edward Seaton, born in 1885, had joined him there in 1899 and left in 1902.

In the 1911 census, 27 year old Geoffrey was working as a Bank Clerk, and boarding with the Crane family at 87 Bishop Street, Shrewsbury. His parents and sister were living in the eleven roomed Bank House at Shipnal, Shropshire where his father was the bank manager.

Geoffrey left Liverpool for St Johns, Nova Scotia on the Virginian on 11 April 1913.

He enlisted on 4 Feb 1916 at Halifax, Nova Scotia. He gave his occupation as farmer. He was 5ft 8½ins tall with a 36 inch chest that could expand to 39½ins chest. He had a fresh complexion, brown eyes and hair, with a tattoo on right forearm. He gave his faith as Church of England. He also stated that he had served in the Cadet corps.

He was in action with his regiment in action on the Somme in the autumn of 1916. The precise details of Geoffrey’s death are not known, but the 2 bn Canadian Infantry war diary gives a general description.

“On 20 September 1916 2 Canadian Battalion relieved 3 Canadian Battalion in the front line beyond Courcelette. Shelling was very heavy for two days especially in the vicinity of Courcelette and Sugar Refinery, but the Canadian artillery was also very active and kept the upper hand. On 24 September 2 Bn, relieved at 9.30 by 13 Canadian Bn, moved back to Brigade Reserve and was relieved just before midnight by 27 Canadian bn. Casualties: 19 killed, 99 wounded.” It is likely that Geoffrey was one of those wounded and taken to a Field Ambulance in Albert where he died of wounds on 7 October. No deaths in action were reported in the Battalion’s war diary for 7 October.

Probate of Geoffrey’s estate, valued at £592 16s, was granted to his father, bank manager, on 10 Feb 1917.

He was buried in Albert Communal Cemetery Extension plot I P 28. The Extension was used by fighting units and Field Ambulances from August 1915 to November 1916 and particularly in and after September 1916 when Field Ambulances were concentrated at Albert. 202 Canadian casualties are buried there.

Sources:
Internet
2 Canadian Battalion war diary WO 95/3761
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
www.ww1cemeteries.com
Seaton, Reginald Ethelbert, s. of A. E. Seaton, consulting engineer, of Hemel Hempsted, b. 1899, W., l. 1917, Down. Coll., Camb, B.A., barrister-at-law of the Middle Temple, Pte. Artists Rifles 1918-19; 121 Aldenham Road, Bushey, Herts

Sells, Archibald Jenner

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</thead>
</table>

In 1891 census the family was still living in Spital Street in Guildford. Charles was a 44 year old medical practitioner, Emily was 42. 8 year old Archibald and 5 of his siblings were at home: Violet aged 17, Bertram 11, Sybil 10, Hugh 9 and Reginald 7. The family employed a governness, a butler, a footman, a cook and a housemaid. Archie’s father registered him to start at Epsom College on 17 September 1896. His brother Hugh was already there and he was accepted a Surrey scholar in Forest House. However he came bottom out of 23 boys in the Lower Third form and left in July 1897. It is likely that the death of his mother c March 1897 unsettled him, He left Epsom in July 1897 and went to Abingdon School 1898-1900.

In 1901 his widowed father was recorded at the same address in Guildford with Archibald’s sister Violet and Sybil both of whom were artists. In 1905 Archie’s father married for a second time, on this occasion to Edith Willoughby Darvel, and they moved to Four Paths, Epsom Road, Guildford. The 1911 census recorded this as an 11 roomed house 64 year old Charles and 37 year old Edith were living there with a visitor and three servants.

Archie had joined the Natal Mounted Police in South Africa on 11 March 1901 at the age of 18. Soon after joining he went with Colonel Dartnell to serve in the South African war and was several times under fire. Subsequently he served in operations to quell the Zulu rebellion. In May 1906 he was severely wounded when Mr Stainbank the resident magistrate of Malabatini was murdered. He received the Queen’s medal with three clasps and the King’s medal for services during the Zulu uprising. He served 10 years and 88 days and achieved the rank of sergeant, He then purchased his discharge for £5 on 6 June 1911 so he could take up sugar farming in Zululand. In 1911 Archibald married Mona Moireen Dunsterville and was living at Four Paths, presumably named after his English home, Amatikulu, Zululand. This sugar estate is still in business today (2014). He was farming successfully on his own estate when war broke out. He returned to UK from Natal on the Union Castle ship Gaika arriving in London in July 1915, followed on 27 Nov 1915 by his wife Mona. She arrived in Plymouth on the ship Saxon,
bringing their 2 year old son Archibald and daughter Moireen who was 7 months. Archie applied for a commission in the Special Reserve of Officers on 16 August, which he obtained in the RWSR as 2nd Lieut on 1 Sept 1915. He went to France 20 April 1916. He was wounded in both legs on 5 July and was invalided home on 8 July but went out again in Sept. At the time of his death he was in charge of a machine gun and was killed by a sniper. His file suggests that he was serving as a Temporary Lieutenant in 6 Service Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment at the time. His effects included 2 watches, a gold ring and a tie pin.

His death announcement in the Times stated that he was the dearly loved, youngest surviving son of Charles John and Emily Sells of Four Paths Guildford aged 34 and one of four brothers who had volunteered. He is remembered on the Guildford war Memorial.

He was awarded the British war and victory medals which were sent out to his widow, at Box 4 Westminster Orange Free State, South Africa. Her remarried name was Watson.

Archie’s brother Lionel qualified as a doctor and was co-inventor of the x-ray machine and died from the effects of exposure to it. He also helped discover that the tsetse fly transmits sleeping sickness.

Sources
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
CWGC
London Gaz
Soldiers died
The Times
TNA file WO 339/41117

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Sells, Archibald Jenner, brother of H. L. S. (1895), b. 1882, F., l. 1897, Natal Mounted Police, served in Boer War and Zulu Rebellion, T/2nd Lt. Queen’s Regt, killed in action in World War I

Sells, Hugh Lancelot
Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Semple, John Mervyn
Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: T/Lt. R. Irish Rifles 1914-18
House: HMM?
Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Senior, Geoffrey
Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Lt. (S.R.) K.O.Y.L.I. 1917-18
House: HMM?
Rank

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Senior, Geoffrey, s. of Herbert Senior, Manchester goods merchant, of Chorlton cum Hardy, b. 1899, L.S. and G., l. 1916, occupation unknown, Lieut. (S.R.) K.O.Y.L.I. 1917-18

Sewart, John Hunter

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: Capt (S.R.) R.A.M.C.

Shadwell, John St. Clair

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Lt. Labour Corps 1916-18

Shapley, Roy Gilbart

Birth Year: 1892
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Capt. S. Lancs Regt. 1914-18

Sharp, Bryan Buckley

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1918

Sharp, Percy Buckley

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Pte R.A.S.C. (M.T.) 1914-18
Sheen, Cyril

| Birth Year: | 1897 |
| Entered Epsom College: | 1908 |
| Regiment: | T/Lt. Suffolk Regt. Died of wounds 1917 |

Sheen, Cyril Cross

| Died: | 02/05/17 | aged 20 |
| Buried: | Duisans Brit Cem, France |

Sheen Cyril Cross 2nd Lieut., Suffolk Regiment (Cambridge Battalion)
Died: 2 May 1917

Cyril was born at 17 Churchfield Road, Willesden Green on 18 March 1897 (GRO Ref: Jun 1897 Hendon 3a 198) the younger son of Thomas and Eleanor Sheen.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Ringwood, 122 Walm Lane, Willesden, London. Thomas was 46, Eleanor 39 and four year old Cyril had two older siblings, Ronald aged 8 and Beatrice 7. The Bryant family was living in the same property. He entered Epsom College Lower School, First form, on 21 January 1908 starting in Fayrer House. His brother Ronald had joined the school the previous year. At the time of registration, Cyril's family was still living at Ringwood. In 1908 he was top of the Second Form of nine boys, and in the following year was 11th out of 24 boys in the Upper III Form, but won the form prize in the Lent term. He progressed to Propert house in the Upper School where he was habitually in a position three quarters down the
My dearest Mother & Dad,

I am starting this letter just fresh from my leave – the happiest 10 days perhaps of my life; it is rather a gloomy task, but I thought that perhaps it would be well to do so as I have not left any will at all.

Copy

B.E.F.

January 10th, 1916

My dearest Mother & Dad,

I am starting this letter just fresh from my leave – the happiest 10 days perhaps of my life; it is rather a gloomy task, but I thought that perhaps it would be well to do so as I have not left any will at all.

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My dearest Mother & Dad,

I am starting this letter just fresh from my leave – the happiest 10 days perhaps of my life; it is rather a gloomy task, but I thought that perhaps it would be well to do so as I have not left any will at all.
First of all I must thank you for all the pains that you have ever taken over me - my excellent eduation your absolute generosity to me at all times resulting in, as I now know, many sacrifices to youself & and most of all the ever flowing stream of love that I have had at your hands. You dear Mother & Dad have always been to me the best of parents that the world could have given me always ready to help me in any difficulty - great or small - & ever ready to help me for all my shortcomings, which, I know have been very many. I fear that I have been a very poor brother to the sweetest sister that man could ever have, my darling Puss. I tried during my leave to try & make amends but I feel I have not now done all that I could for her. My greatest hope is that she will be able to marry a fine fellow who may be worthy of her dear girl that she is! Ronny has always been a very dear brother to me, both at school & afterwards & I shall never be able to repay him for the excellent advice & guidance he has every been ready to give me. I sincerely hope that he may come through safely & experience the joy of a home of his own with a very dear wife the child he is now expecting. May he have every success during his life which I trust will last for many years yet. Dear Ethel who is always so good to me, will, I am sure, be all that one could possibly desire, both as wife & Mother. I have not very many worldly possessions dear but I would like you to distribute them something like this. (1)One of my war loan certificates (the last) is to be given to dear Ron & Ethel's child or if it should die which I pray God it will not the certificate is to go to Ron & Ethel. (2)The remainder of my money to be divided between you & dear Puss; she is to have one or more of my War Loan certificates if the total amount I leave will permit of it.

I would like you to remember the following very dear friends with some other article such as Links, watch chain, school prizes etc. (1)My dear God Father George, who has always been exceedingly good to me. (2)Dear John Brown, my greatest boy friend. (3) Neville Rucker of Newbury, Berks. & 12th Suffolks. (4)My late house Master, Mr. Neale of Epsom College, who always took a great interest in my personal welfare & happiness when at the Coll. & also in my education generally. I would like you to thank all my dear friends for their goodness to me at all times especially the following Mr. & Mrs Powell & Dorothy, Mr. & Mrs. Jones Nan & Bert. Mr. & Mrs. Rowe & Family. The Misses Leney to whom I owe so much, Mrs Edwards, The Hirsts, The Gillespies. I now mention one final point dear: - Please give my very dear love to Mamie, whom I have loved very dearly for the last year, I have never mentioned this to her, as I have always felt that it will be rather a long time before I shall be able to marry & I should never forgive myself for hindering her in any other marriage she might at some time intend. She has always been very dear to me as, in my opinion, a perfect woman, - pure, simple, unaffected - very kind to all with whom she may come in contact. I have always had with me in France a photo of her sweet face. As you know one of my great pleasures in life is being in the company of decent girls, & leaving out the question of relations, who, especially you dearest have been dearest to me. I have never enjoyed any one's society more than dear Mamie’s. Well, dear heart, I feel relieved to have come to the end of this dreary letter which - I pray God - may never have to be opened; however should I die out hear my one great request is not to grieve for me; transfer all your love for me, which has always been bountiful, to Ron’s child & should you ever feel down about me always think in what way you can help him (or her) as you have always done for me. Above all, carry on! & with a brave heart, until we meet again. My dearest love to you both & Ron, Puss, Ethel & George. Remember I shall be only one of many thousands of braver lads. As ever keep smiling dear heart! 

Your ever loving son,

Cyril
Cyril Sheen in 1913

Cyril Sheen in the 1st XV, 1914

Cyril Sheen’s School Certificate
Cyril Sheen, from his obituary

Sheen's Testament, page 1

Sheen's Testament, page 2

Sheen, Ronald [Cross]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
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<td>1897</td>
<td>T/Maj. M.G.C. (Motor) 1914-18</td>
<td>HMM?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

**Sheen, Ronald [Cross], b. 1893, L.S. and P., prefect, XV (capt.), l. 1910, accountant, T/Capt. Middx Regt., 1914-18, brother of C. S. (1908) and father of C. R. P. S. (1931); 246 Willesden Lane, N.W**

**Sheperd, Capt. Albert Victor Wilberforce**

**Sherwood, Lewis Tom, brother of the above, b. 1883, W., l. 1894 racehorse trainer, Sgt. Surrey Yeo. 1914-18**

**Shillingford, Robert Hough**

**Sholl, Guy Trevarton**

**Dr. Charles Gallannaugh**

**Major Guy Trevarton Sholl D.S.C. 1886 – 1931**

Guy Trevarton Sholl (GTS) was born in Perth, Western Australia on 6th June 1886 the son of Robert
Frederic Sholl (1848-1909) and his wife Elizabeth Cosgrove (1855-?). His father, whose family had originated in Cornwall, had been born in Australia. He was an entrepreneur who owned pearlimg ships in which he employed Aboriginal labour to dive for pearls and he also owned gold mines and large estates in Western Australia. He was a Member of Parliament for Western Australia and a J.P. Guy had two brothers and two sisters and in 1897 Guy and his brother Frederick were sent to England to Epsom College. Frederick entered the school in the Lent term and left at Christmas 1898 but Guy who entered in September 1897 flourished at the College.

His father nominated C.O. Bennett Esq. of 27 Lombard St., London E.C. as the boys' guardian when he put their names down for the College. GTS was placed in Wilson House and started in the Lower Middle Fourth form. At the end of the summer term in 1898 he was placed 10/17 in form and did particularly well in the mathematics set where he was 2/13. In 1899 on the modern side as opposed to classics he was 3rd in class at the end of the year. He remained in the upper third of the class as he progressed through the school and then in 1904 in his final year was made a prefect. He distinguished himself on the sports field playing in the rugger XV and the first XI and was captain of the hockey XI. In 1904 he won the Sterry Divinity prize, a prize awarded by the vote of the Masters to a boy who “without gaining any of the chief literary prizes of the year, nevertheless holds an honourable place in the examination of Divinity, and seems to them worthy of reward for his uprightness, conscientiousness, loyalty, and truthfulness”. It was never adjudged twice to the same boy.

After leaving the College it appears that he returned to Australia. On 5th October 1914 at the age of 28, having signed his Attestation papers on 25th September, he joined the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) in Perth Western Australia where he was then working as a grazier or farmer. He enrolled as a trooper in ‘A’ Squadron of the Australian 10th Light Horse Regiment (10/A.L.H.R.) in the 3rd Light Horse Brigade of the 1st Anzac Corps. He was given the number 135 and gave his mother Mrs R.F. Sholl, now a widow, as his next of kin with her address as St George’s Terrace, Perth. His medical report signed by a Lt/Col. Boyce of the Australian Army Medical Corps describes him as 5ft. 10 ins. in height weighing 13 stone with brown hair and grey eyes. He was noted to have a linear scar on his cheek.

On 19th Dec 1914 he was promoted to L/Cpl. and in February 1915 he embarked at Freemantle with the regiment on HMAS Mashobra and went to Egypt where the A.I.F. was being assembled before moving to Gallipoli. The Regiment marched to Alexandria on the 15th May 1915 and on the following day embarked on A24 SS Lutzw for the aptly named Cape Helles. After dropping anchor for a short while they moved up the coast to Anzac Cove where they disembarked on the 21st May.

They immediately came under fire and began taking casualties. The Light Horse Regiments were without their horses as the conditions and terrain was quite unsuited to cavalry and their task was to support the other infantry regiments of the AIF. At first they were at Quinn’s Post and then Monash Gully before marching to Walker’s Ridge where they remained through most of June and July. The conditions were atrocious with a plague of flies, which were feeding on the unburied rotting corpses in No Man’s Land, causing severe sickness and diarrhoea amongst the troops. By 1st July the “shortage of officers and men [was] seriously felt” as a result of sickness and death in action. By the 23rd of July the diary recorded “Sickness very prevalent, diarrhoea and influenza principally. Weather getting very hot. Flies still a pest”. Food was short and there was little fresh meat. By the beginning of August “Sickness very prevalent. All ranks badly need a rest and change of diet”.

At this time GTS succumbed and on the 5th August he was taken by hospital ship to Malta with sickness and fever. He was transferred to England and on 5th of September was admitted to the Military Hospital at Lewisham. Two months later, in November 1915, he was discharged from the A.I.F. and immediately applied to be considered for a commission in England in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (R.N.V.R). On 15th November 1915 he became a Sub/Lieutenant in the R.N.V.R. (LG 29373 p11477) and after initial training joined Cdr. O. Locker-Lampson’s Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) Armoured Cars and served in Armenia and Persia. The R.N.A.S. had first used armoured cars in late 1914 when the Eastchurch Squadron of the R.N.A.S. was moved to Ostend and then Dunkirk. The Squadron was commanded by a charismatic, swash buckling character, Cdr CR Samson who, when bad weather grounded his aircraft, set off to shoot up enemy units using armoured cars which he built himself. A similar example is shown below. The idea quickly caught on and with Churchill’s enthusiastic support at the Admiralty his unit was supplied with more armoured cars and marines. No doubt Locker-Lampson’s unit developed along the lines of the Eastchurch Squadron. The unit was sent to the Middle East and whilst still a Sub/Lt. GTS quickly distinguished himself.

In September 1916 he took part in an action which led to the award of the Distinguished Service Cross (D.S.C.). The citation describes the event in detail:

“Sub-Lieut. Guy Trevarton Sholl, R.N.V.R.”
“In recognition of his services in charge of a squadron of Royal Naval Armoured Cars in Armenia and Persia. By his presence of mind he saved the cars when they were ambushed by the Turks at Marnik on the 1st September, 1916, and by his devotion to duty, courage and hard work he effected the capture of the village of Norsehen on the 9th September, and secured the explosion of a Turkish magazine, with great loss to the enemy. His consistent cheerfulness and unselfishness were a material factor in the success of the work accomplished by the cars.” (LG 29886 p10; 29 Dec 1916).

In January 1917 he was promoted to T/Lt (LG 30011 p3332) and then in June 1917 the Russian Government conferred on him The Order of St Stanislas 2nd Class with Swords (LG30147 p6257). He was also awarded the Russian Order of St Anne although the Gazette reference for this has not been found.

In June 1917 he married Evelyn Beatrice Emily Ker-Gulland (née Welch) a young widow then aged 28 at St George’s Hanover Square. She had been an actress who in June 1914 had married an engineer, 2/Lt Reginald Ker-Gulland of the London Scottish Regt. Tragically three months later he died of wounds at Ypres in Flanders leaving her a widow. Fortunately however he left her well provided for. After her second marriage a daughter, Beatrice E Sholl, was born in London, in December 19171 and after the war the family moved to Australia. However in 1926 GTS and his wife divorced in Perth, Australia and Evelyn returned to England where she lived in Guildford using the name Ker-Gulland. She died in 1948 and is buried with her first husband in Putney Cemetery.

In February 1918 GTS was transferred from Cdr. O. Locker-Lampson’s R.N.A.S. Armoured Cars to the Machine Gun Corps (Motor)4 and was promoted to T/Capt with seniority from 1st January 1917 (30532 p2201). In the latter part of 1917 he had been selected to join what became known as the Dunster Force after General Lionel Dunsterville who established the Force in Persia in December 1917. In essence this small force of around 300 men, formed mainly of Australian, New Zealand and Canadian troops with armoured cars, was formed to protect British interests and secure oilfields in northern Persia and the Caucasus from the Ottomans and Bolsheviks.

In February 1918 GTS was promoted to Major (LG30632 p4552). On 15th April, presumably after a spell of leave in England, he embarked at Southampton for Archangel4. The N Russian Expeditionary force had recently been set up in Murmansk and Archangel to assist White Russian forces against the Bolsheviks. Dunster Force was no doubt part of this formation. GTS arrived in mid-May and a month later was appointed Squadron Commander effective from 1st January 1918. Initially the Force was involved in training and leading local tribal militias against the Germans and their Ottoman allies and in due course it deployed from Hamadan in W. Persia to defend the Baku oilfields on the west shores of the Caspian Sea.

There during the early stage of the Battle of Baku (26th August-14th September) Major Sholl’s luck ran out. On the 26th August he sustained what was later described as “a very severe gunshot wound of his left foot”. Details were recorded in a letter dated 26th December 1918 written by Captain GRD McGeogh R.A.M.C. medical officer to the Dunster Armoured Car Brigade from HQ Kazimain4. He wrote: “Gunshot wound foot with compound fractures 3,4,5, metatarsals. Amputation at Baku August 1918. Discharged from Military Hospital Kusvin to light duties”. In early September he was re-admitted to hospital at Kazimain as the foot was infected and a number of bone fragments had emerged. He remained in hospital until 31st December 1918 after which he was effectively discharged from active service.

He returned to England and was repatriated to Australia on 25th May 1919 from the Repatriation Camp, Pirbright and released from duty on 4th July 19194. Following an appearance before a Medical Board in May 1920 in Perth a note was made by a surgeon; “Lost 4th and 5th toes. Much damage 3rd metatarsal; practically useless and painful to manipulation. Care in walking over rough ground. Improvement is unlikely and 3rd metatarsal may cause future trouble”. In addition to his foot problem he “had attacks of malaria every week from July to October 1919 and has had 6 mild attacks lasting 2 days since”. He was advised to continue to take quinine and was graded as having 60% disability and fit for sedentary employment only. In due course he was awarded a £300 gratuity4 (£14,000 in 2016).

In January 1921 the London Gazette announced that “Machine Gun Corps (Motor). Temp. Major G.T.Sholl relinquishes his commission on completion of service, 21 January 1921 and retains rank of Major”. Whether he was able to return to his former occupation as a farmer in Australia is not known. He died in Perth Western Australia on 18th March 1931 at the young age of 45 and was buried in Karrakatta Cemetery, Karrakatta, W. Australia7.

A curious postscript to his story arose many years after his death. A copy of a letter was found in his records at TNA4 from the Army Medal Office, presumably sent to the War Office personnel department,
dated 16th January 1959 which gave details of his war medals which had been found in a street in England. It reads: “On 4th September 1958 a Mr J.N. Brown of 71 Prefab, Dinsdale Crescent, Bishop’s Stortford, handed to the police a collection of seven medals found in London Rd., Bishop’s Stortford as follows”.

British War Medal Major GT Sholl.2
Victory Medal Major GT Sholl.3
(Distinguished Service Cross (RN.4
Russian Order of St Anne.5
(Russian Order of St Anne (smaller size.6
Russian Order of St Stanislas.7
Writing on the back of the letter is very hard to decipher. The medal index card however was endorsed accordingly on 12th February 1959. The 1914-15 Star, BWM and VM were sent to the Royal Mint as scrap. The D.S.C. (RN) was sent as a ‘specimen’ to the strong room and the Russian Order of St Anne and Russian Order of St Anne (smaller size) together with the Russian Order of St Stanislas went to a show case, presumably in the Army Medal Office.

This strange episode is difficult to explain as GTS had long since died. It can only be surmised that the medals had been in the possession of someone who discarded them and by chance they fell into the street where they were fortunately found by Mr Brown.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
2 Australian Imperial Force: Attestation Paper & service record
3 Australian 10th Light Horse: War diary.
4 TNA: The National Archives, Kew. WO 374/62143
5 Medal Roll index card
6 First World War in the Air by Phil Carradice. Amberley publishing 2013 p46.
7 Australians in the RNAS: www.2010 ozrnas.org.au
8 Epsom College Register 1855-1954; 1855-1905; and Yellow Books.
Charles S Gallannaugh December 2016

Sholl, Guy Trevarton, D.S.C., brother of the above, b. 1886, W., prefect, XV, XI, h. XI (capt), Sterry Pr., l. 1904, pastoralist, R.N.D. and T/Maj. M.G.C. (motor) 1914-18, and cl. Order of Stanislas with swords, d. 1931

(AWM8 10/15/1 – 10 LHR Feb 1915)
Simmons, Robert Douglas Hardman

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A. 1914-18

Simons, Capt. Selwyn Barrett Glascodyne

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: Capt. S.W. Borderers

Simpson, Reginald Hugh

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1902
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1915-19

Sims, Gordon Lawrence

Birth Year: 1900
Entered Epsom College: 1913

HMAS Mashobra

Simmons, Robert Douglas Hardman, s. of H. T. Simmons, farmer, of Crowhurst, b. 1891, L.S., l. 1902, occupation unknown, Capt. R.A. (T.F.) 1914-18

Simons, Capt. Selwyn Barrett Glascodyne, S.W. Bord. (retd.), s. of dr. C. E. G. Simons of Merthyr Tydfil, b. 1898, L.S. and C., l. 1915

Simpson, Reginald Hugh, s. of F. M. Simpson, wine merchant, of Lewisham, b. 1891, P., prefect, Watts, Latin P., and Gardiner Prs., l. 1909, St. Bart.'s Hosp. and Lond. U., M.D., B.S., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1915-19; 55 Hodford Road, N.W. n
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<td>aged 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buried: Nowshera, India</td>
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</table>

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

### Sloane-Stanley, Lt.-Col. George Hermann

- **Birth Year:**
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1912
- **Regiment:** Lt.-Col. R.A.
- **House:**
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

*Sloane-Stanley, Lt.-Col. George Hermann, R.A. (retd.), s. of W. F. Sloane-Stanley, banker, of Epsom, b. 1898, D.B., l. 1915; n Hyde Park Gate, S.W. 7*

### Smith, Ian Sidney Allan

- **Birth Year:**
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1913
- **Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. Scottish Rifles and Tank Corps 1917-18
- **House:**
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

*Smith, Ian Sidney Allan, s. of dr. W. A. Smith of Darwen, b. 1899, C., prefect, XI, l. 1917, estate agent, T/2nd Lt. Scottish Rifles and Tank Corps 1917-18*

### Smith, John Raymond

- **Birth Year:**
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1914
- **Regiment:** A.B. R.N.V.R. 1917-18
- **House:**
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*

*Smith, John Raymond, s. of Hamilton Smith, independent, of Sutton, b. 1899, D.B., prefect, l. 1917, surveyor, A.B., R.N.V.R. 1917-18, brother of R. D. S. (1915) and C. A. S. (1921); St. Margaret’s, Epsom Road, Ewell*

### Smith, Ralph Gillespie

- **Birth Year:**
- **Entered Epsom College:** 1899
- **Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
- **House:**
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**

*Epsom College Register 1855-1954*


### Smith, Sidney Browning

- **Regiment:**
- **House:**
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**

Sidney Browning Smith (1866-1930) [Epsom College 1877-1884] was the son of Dr Thomas Browning Smith, M.D., of Sittingbourne, Kent. From Epsom College he entered St Bartholomew's Hospital and qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) in 1890. He subsequently took the D.P.H. of the London Colleges in 1910. When he entered the Indian Medical Service as Surgeon (1891), he was a member of the last term who entered Netley under that title, before the grant of compound titles. At Netley he gained the Parkes Memorial Medal for Hygiene. He then moved to India, took part in the Chitral campaign (1895) and saw action at Chakalwat and Nisa Ghol. He was mentioned in despatches, and received the frontier medal with a clasp. From 1901 until the end of 1902 he took part in the Waziristan campaign. He then entered civil employment in the Punjab, serving first as the Plague Medical Officer at Amritsar (1902-1903), before promotion to Chief Plague Officer for the Punjab (1903-1912).

At the outset of the First World War he was recalled to military service and accompanied the Indian Expeditionary Force to Europe, where he served on the Western Front. On his return to Britain Sidney Browning Smith was initially placed in charge of the Mont Doré Hospital for Indian troops at Bournemouth, but subsequently posted to Egypt. He was again mentioned in despatches in the London Gazette (1917) and was awarded the C.M.G.

In retirement he married the formidable Lady Edith Rattigan, widowed grandmother of the playwright Terence Rattigan.

SIDNEY MAYNARD SMITH (1875-1928). C.B., M.B. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). - Consultant Surgeon to St Mary's Hospital and the Second and Fifth Armies.

“As Consulting Surgeon to the Fifth Army in 1916, he was chiefly responsible for the treatment of the wounded during the great battles of Passchendaele.”

Plarr’s Lives of the Fellows. Royal College of Surgeons (1928).

Sidney Maynard Smith (1875-1928) [Epsom College 1889-1893. Entrance Scholarship. Ann Hood Exhibition. Hockey XI] was the son of W. H. Smith of the Admiralty. In 1893, he won an entrance scholarship to St Mary’s Hospital and after a distinguished student career qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) in 1898. Shortly after this he was appointed house-surgeon at St Mary’s Hospital before serving in the South African War as a civil surgeon with the 3rd Battalion Welsh regiment, winning the Queen’s medal and two clasps. On returning to London he passed the F.R.C.S. examination (1902), graduated M.B., B.S. with honours (1905), and was appointed demonstrator of anatomy in St Mary’s Hospital Medical School. He won a great reputation as a teacher and, in 1906, was appointed surgeon with charge of out-patients at St Mary’s Hospital and assistant surgeon to the Victoria Hospital for Children.

Sidney Maynard Smith had a brilliant record of service during the First World War. In 1914 he was
appointed Surgeon-in-Chief to the St John Ambulance Brigade Hospital, and after devoting himself with the greatest energy to its organisation and equipment, proceeded to France with the hospital in 1915, holding the rank of Major in the R.A.M.C. At Etaples, the St John Hospital soon became famous for the outstanding perfection of its organisation, and very many surgical cases were received. The British Medical Journal recorded that: “never was Maynard Smith’s brilliant genius as an organiser shown to better effect than in the minutely detailed arrangements he made for dealing with the work of the St John Hospital. His skill gained him a great reputation in France, and led to his appointment of consulting surgeon to the Fifth Army in 1916, with the rank of Colonel A.M.A.” In his new position he was largely responsible for the surgical arrangements for dealing with the heavy casualties of the prolonged battle of Passchendaele. He also distinguished himself greatly during the battle of St Quentin and the retreat of the Fifth Army. Following this he was appointed consulting surgeon to the Second Army. At his own request Maynard Smith was early permitted to pay visits to the front line, to regimental first aid posts, and to advance and main dressing stations. With this he soon acquired a sound judgement as to what was essential to efficiency in the care, treatment and evacuation of the wounded. As a surgeon he was distinguished by his shrewd judgement and the thoroughness of his work. He was a splendid technician, neat and precise, and all his operations were performed after thoughtful preparation and with the most meticulous attention to details. For his services to the French Army during the fighting around Kemmel he was awarded the Croix de Guerre; for his war services he was mentioned in despatches four times, was created C.B. and a Knight of Grace of the Order of St John of Jerusalem.

After the Great War, Maynard Smith was appointed Consultant Surgeon at St Mary’s Hospital (1922), and other appointments held at this time included surgeon to the London Fever Hospital and consulting surgeon to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, at Ealing. His contributions to medical literature included the section on fractures of the lower limbs on the official medical history of the war. He was a member of the Council of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association, and Secretary of the Section of Diseases of Children when the B.M.A. held its annual meeting at Sheffield in 1906. He also obtained distinction as a Freemason, being a Past Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of England. After the war he wrote the section on Fractures of the Lower Extremity in the Official History of the First World War. For some years he was Honorary Secretary of the Old Epsomian Club. As his war work demonstrated, Maynard Smith had a genius for organisation and, in 1927 he was largely responsible for planning the new operating theatre block at St Mary’s Hospital. Unfortunately he passed away before its completion.

**Smith, Sydney Joseph**

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1885
- **Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C.
- **Rank:**
- **Decorations:**
- **House:**
- **Birth Year:**
- **HMM?**
- **Researcher:**

**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


**Smith, William Harold Vyvian**

- **Entered Epsom College:** 1912
- **Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. E. Lancs Regt.
- **Rank:** 2Lt
- **Decorations:**
- **House:**
- **Birth Year:**
- **HMM?**
- **Researcher:**

**Smith, William Harold V**

- **Died:** 31/07/17
- **Aged:** 20
- **Unit:** 2nd Bn, East Lancs
- **Buried:** Ypres Menin Gate Mem, Belgium
- **Reference:** Panel 34

**Elizabeth Manterfield**

**SMITH William Harold Vyvyan 2nd Lieut., 2bn (59th foot) East Lancashire Regiment**

**Killed:** 31 July 1917

William was born on 4 June 1897 at 40 Grange Court, Grange Road, Ealing the son of Harold Oxley Chamberlain Smith, and his
In the 1901 census Harold was a 40 year old solicitor and a member of the firm of Carr, Scott, Smith and Gorringe of 325 High Holborn. He was also deputy coroner for Westminster and the Savoy. William’s mother was 35. Three year old William was at home with his two sisters Kate Vyvyan aged 8 and Winifred Vyvyan 7.

In the 1911 census the family was still living in the 11 roomed Grange Court. Harold was a 50 and still working as a solicitor, Kate was 46. They had been married 20 years and had 5 children all of whom were still living. Thirteen year old William Harold Vyvyan was at home with his three sisters Kate Vyvyan aged18, Winifred Vyvyan 17, and Mary Vyvyan 8 and his brother Edward Richard Vyvyan aged 6.

William was educated initially at “Harrow View”, Ealing and then went to Epsom College, Wilson House Michaelmas Term 1912. He was there barely two years, but the Epsomian noted “that was long enough for those around him to learn that he was a fellow with excellent spirits and who could always appreciate a good bit of fun.” He sense of fun may have distracted him from his studies because he came bottom out of the 18 boys in the Middle Fourth form in summer 1913.

He left in 1914, a few months before the outbreak of war.

William enlisted in the 16th Battalion (Queen’s Westminster Rifles) The London Regt. (Territorial Force) as Private 1917 on 6 August 1914 at the age of 17 yrs and 3months. He was 5ft 10ins tall, and had a 36inch chest which expanded to 37½inches. He had a good physical development and good vision.

He served in the ranks as a Rifleman with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 1 November 1914 and took part in the operations at Armentieres and Ypres. He was admitted to the Infectious Hospital at Bailleul 30 Mar 1915 with German Measles, and was then transferred to No 14 Stationary Hospital at Boulogne from where he was invalided home on 11 May 1915, suffering from suspected Scarlet Fever. On his recovery, he rejoined his Regiment at Hooge, on 3 Aug 1915 where he took part in severe fighting.

He subsequently went to the Officers’ Cadet Corps at General Headquarters and obtained a commission as 2nd Lieut. in the 2nd battalion East Lancashire Regiment on 23 Oct. 1915. He was posted from cadet school on 24 October 1915 and joined his battalion on 30 October.

He took part in several engagements, including Armentieres, Souchez, Vimy Ridge, Hulluch, the Hohenzollern Redoubt, Hooge and the Battle of the Somme. He was recommended for the Military Cross after action at Contalmaison. He was again invalided home from 26 Field Hospital on 19 September 1916, suffering from pyorrhea and septic throat. He arrived at No 1 Casualty Clearing Station on 24 September and in England on 5 October.

He was posted back to France 29 May, 1917, and arrived at the front on 5 June. He was killed in action on 31 July 1917, by a sniper while organizing his Platoon outside Glencorse Wood, north of Ypres, following a successful advance of 2,000 yards. He was buried south-west of Glencorse Wood. His grave was subsequently lost and he is remembered on panel 34 of the Menin Gate at Ypres.

His Colonel wrote: "He always did his job well, and was doing well at the time of his death," and another officer wrote: " It is quite impossible for me to tell you how much we all miss him here. He was always so cheerful under all circumstances, and he was magnificent under fire, the men would follow him anywhere. I do not think that any Platoon Commander on that day kept his men better together. He led them first through a heavy barrage and then right on to their final objective, altogether about 2,000 yards. I saw him a few minutes before he was hit, and he was full of how well his men had done. He was shot by a sniper and died instantaneously, and was buried that night close to where he fell. I feel sure he would not have wished to die otherwise than leading his men in battle."

His father had a nervous breakdown and died on 24 November 1919, leaving William’s mother to execute his will.

He was awarded the 1914 Star, the British war and victory medals which were sent to his mother.

Sources:
Census 1901, 1911
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Times 7 Aug 1917
TNA WO 339/47141-long number 116665

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Smith, William Harold Vyvian, s. of H. O. C. Smith, solicitor, of Baling, b. 1897, W., l. 1914, T/2ndLt. E. Lancs Regt., killed in action 1917
Smyth, Lt.-Col. Francis Gerald Augustus

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C.

Decorations: C.B.E.

Somerville, Harmar Henry

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1893
Regiment: Lieut (S.R.), R.G.A. 1914-18 desp

Spence, Douglas Benham

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-19

Spiers, Alec Maclaren

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1905

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Squire, Edward Hubert Corsellis

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: R.F.C. 1914-18

Squire, Felix James Corsellis

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: L/Cpl Essex Regt. Died of wounds 1917


Squire, Edward Hubert Corsellis, s. of E. H. S. (1870), b. 1894, L.S. and G., l. 1912, cycle manufacturer and company director, served in R.F.C. 1914-18; 67 Bixley Road, Ipswich

Squire, Felix James Corsellis

Died: 04/06/17 aged 19
Buried: Bethune Town Cemetery, France
Reference: VI. E. 69.

Felix was born at Wivenhoe, Essex on 1897 the son of Edward Herbert Squire and Georgiana Annie nee Lawton his wife. His father had also attended Epsom College in 1870-71
He entered Epsom College’s Lower School in 1908 in Lower School Fayrer House first Form and progressed to Granville House in the Upper school. His two brothers Edward and Guy started at the same time. Felix was very able academically and was usually amongst the top six boys in his year. In 1914 he passed his Lower School Certificate with first class passes in Latin and mathematics. He left in the summer of that year and went to work as a bank clerk.
Felix enlisted at Maldon, Essex and was initially a Private in the 3rd Bn Essex Regiment but according to CWGC was in 11 Bn when he died. His service papers have not survived. 11 Battalion’s war diary recorded the experiences of the Battalion near Mazingarbe in the Loos sector around the time of Felix’s death.

1 June. Battalion strength 22 officers, 594 OR.
2 June. Aerial darts (Granatenwerfer) active on our front line during night. We retaliated strongly with Stokes’ Mortars, and 18 pounders. Our 6 and 4.5 Hows (Howitzers) were in action in trenches and were opposite our front during the afternoon and evening.
3 June. Less trouble with aerial darts during the night. Trench strength 22 officers 577 OR. Lt RBT Hill KIA.
4 June .2.15 2nd Lt KWJ Moore and 20 OR attempted to enter the German trenches but were prevented by our own barrage which owing to an unexplained mistake started behind them as they lay in No Man’s Land and then lifted to German front lines where it remained. During the same night 3-4 June a B Company party working in A company’s line was bombarded with aerial dart shells. Casualties during the night were : 1 officer, 4 OR killed or died of wounds. 13 ORs wounded."
It is likely that one of the wounded was Felix. He was probably taken to Bethune an important railway centre about 8 miles away and location of the 33rd Casualty Clearing Station until December 1917 where he died and is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery plot VI E 69m, 29 kilometres north of Arras.
He is remembered on the Wivenhoe War Memorial and on a memorial plaque of plain brass with incised inscription in black lettering.

To the glorious and beloved memory of Felix James Corsellis Squire, lance corporal 3rd Essex Regt grandson of the late / Nicholas Ceasar Corsellis Lawton of Wivenhoe Hall who gave his life for his country in France 4th June 1917 aged 19 years. "non est mortale quod opto." This brass is erected by his devoted mother ---and brothers

He was awarded British Victory and War Medals
Squire, Felix James Corsellis, brother of the above, b. 1897, L.S. and G., l. 1914, bank clerk, L/Cpl. Essex Regt., d. of wounds 1917

Squire, Frank Girling

Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A. 1914-18

Squire, Ivan Guy Corsellis

Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Pte R.A.S.C. 1914-18

Stack, John Masfen

Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: T/Capt. N. Staffs Regt. Killed in action 1916

Elizabeth Manterfield

John Masfen Stack was born on 28 August 1889 at Stanningley, Pudsey, Yorkshire. (GRO Ref: Dec 1889 Bradford 9b 243). He was the second son of Maj. Edward Churchill Stack, RAMC, FRCSI, BD and his wife Susan nee Masfen. His father had been born in Ireland and his mother in Llandudno, Wales. He was also the grandson of the Bishop of Cloghar. In the 1891 census the family was living at 12 Slaters Building, Pudsey. John’s father was a 30 year old medical practitioner, and his mother was 31. John’s older brother Charles Maurice was 3 years old, John was 1 and his younger brother, William, was 5 months. John’s eighteen year old aunt, Helen Masfen, was living with the family and Ethel Hine aged 19 was visiting them.

John entered Epsom College Carr House on 21 September 1905. He came 7th out of 15 boys in Modern Middle I in July 1906. The Modern side of the school prepared pupils for a mercantile career rather than entering a profession. In July 1907 in came 14th out of 16 pupils in the Modern Fifth form when he left.

He was a member of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment and served as a drummer between 28 August
1906 and 31 January 1908. He obtained a commission and was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in the 6th North Staffordshires on 1 February 1908 and Lieutenant on 15 July 1909. He resigned from the regiment on 25 November 1911 but not for any reasons affecting his character or efficiency.

He applied for a commission in the Auxiliary Forces on 14 May 1913 and rejoined the army on the 19 May. He was able to claim exemption from the Army Entrance Examination because he had reached the required standard for the College of Preceptors (Algebra, Geometry, Arithmetic, French, English Language, Latin and Chemistry) in December 1907. At his medical he was 5ft 11¼ins tall, had a 38in chest, weighed 158lbs with a good physique. He had good hearing and vision. Four of his teeth were missing but the rest were sound.

He went to France on 4 March 1915 and served in 3/6 Staffordshires from 22 April 1915 until he was wounded in the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt on 13 October 1915. He was made temporary Captain 13 Jan 1916. He applied for a commission in the Regular Army on 22 Feb 1916 supported by Brig Fetcham under whom he had served in 3/6 Bn until wounded with a view to joining the RFC. He was killed in the attack on Gommecourt on 1 July 1916.

The following extract from Alan MacDonald’s book ‘A Lack of Offensive Spirit? The 46th (North Midland Division) Gommecourt on 1st July 1916 describes his death:

“Capt. J M Stack was the officer in charge of the 3rd wave and he was accompanied by 2nd Lt. W A Lawrence. As the clock moved inexorably towards zero hour, Stack turned to his young subaltern and asked, ‘Have you got a stout heart?’ Lawrence assured him that he did and that he would follow him anywhere. As they talked a man staggered towards them bleeding heavily from a shrapnel wound. Although busy looking after his Company, Capt. Stack found a moment to bandage him up before sending him down to the dressing station, and probably saved the man’s life. He was splendid and his smiling face kept the men in good heart until the word came to go over.

The lightly laden officers were able to climb out of the trench without too much trouble but then they had to stop to haul out the men encumbered as they were with entrenching tools, rifles and the like. 2nd Lt. Lawrence, before the war a reporter with the ‘Burton Daily Mail’, later told his story to the ‘Burton Observer’:

“After going about 100 yards through the smoke cloud, Captain Stack dropped and rolled over. I said, ‘Are you hurt badly?’ and he replied, ‘I think so. You go and take charge of the men’. I went off and hadn’t gone ten yards when I was sent down with shrapnel in the leg. I crawled back to Stack and asked, ‘Where have you got it?’ and he said, ‘I think I have got it badly in the stomach’. I asked if I could do anything for him and he said, ‘No thank you, Lawrence’. I started to crawl back for help and reached a small ridge. The fire was so terrific that a shell hole I found was a God-send but it only gave me a bit of head cover and I commenced to dig myself in with my pen knife. The mud is on it now.”

His body was recovered from a temporary grave in the winter of 1919 and buried in Gommecourt Wood New Cemetery, Fonquevillers, Pas de Calais, France, grave II. B. 20.

John’s father went out to the front with the 6th North Staffordshires in February 1915 as the Medical Officer and his brother, William, was a Captain in the battalion. The remaining brother, Lt. C Maurice Stack, was in the Royal Navy. All three brothers had played for Burton Rugby Football Club before the war.

He was awarded the 1915 Star and the British victory and War medals.

At the time of his death, CWGC recorded his parents address as 181, High Street, Burton-on-Trent.

Sources:
CWGC
Epsom register printed and m/s
Epsomian
“A Lack of Offensive Spirit? Alan MacDonald’s book
London Gazette 4 Feb 1916,
Medal Index card and award roll
The Times
TNA file WO374/64697 long no. 3769.

University of Birmingham virtual war memorial

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**Stack, John Masfen, s. of dr. E. C. Stack of Burton-on-Trent, b. 1889, C., l. 1907, T/Capt. N. Staffs Regt., killed in action 1916**

**Stanley, Geoffrey Parker**

<table>
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<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>House:</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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**Decorations:**
Stanley, Geoffrey Parker, s. of Parker Stanley, wine shipper, of Hampstead, b. 1891, W., l. 1908, bank official, Lieut. R.N.V.R. 1914-18; 53 Hanworth Road, Feltham, Middx

Stapylton-Smith

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1907

Stapylton-Smith, Henry Miles, s. of H. G. Stapylton-Smith, solicitor, of Bexhill, b. 1894, F., prefect, l. 1910, solicitor, T/Lt. R.A.S.C. 1914-18, desp.; Steellands, Ticehurst, Sussex

Stearn, Ernest Reginald

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. R.F.A. Died of illness contracted on service 1920

STEARN Ernest Reginald 2nd Lieut
RFA
Died 26 Aug 1920
Ernest was born on 20 Feb 1897 at Doyle Road, St Peterport, Guernsey, the only son of Frederick Charles Stearn and his wife Edith Evans nee Gadsby. His parents had married in 1895 (GRO Ref: Sept 1895 Walsall 6b 1043).
His father was a doctor, MRCS and LRCP, and had practised for nine years in Walsall and then in the Royal Navy. In 1901 he was the ship’s surgeon aboard HMS Royal Sovereign in Malta.
On 2 April 1904 Ernest’s father died whilst living with his family at 13 The Terrace, HM Dockyard, Portsmouth. Frederick left a mere £530 and other than a small income from an annuity and whatever his mother could earn, Ernest and his mother were left with very little means. They moved to 68 Queens Road, North End Portsmouth and in 1905 Edith started applying for a Foundation Scholarship at Epsom College for Ernest. She was eventually successful in 1908, by which time they had moved to 86 Osborne Road, Southsea, Hampshire.
Ernest started at Epsom College on 17 September 1908 in the II form in Holman House and then progressed to Propert House in the Upper School in Jan 1910. He was a very able boy, ranking amongst the top students in each year. He gained his School Certificate in 1913 and his Higher Certificate the following year. In 1915 he won the Harvey Prize of 7gns for the Foundation Scholar who did best in the School’s annual examinations. He passed the first examination for a University of London medical degree at the College in 1915.
He played in the 2nd XV rugby team, was in the School teams for Fives and Swimming, being captain of the team in 1915. He joined the OTC in Dec 1909 where he became a Sergeant Drummer and gained a Cert A. He was a prefect and a great favourite at the College due to his humorous nature and his cheerful and affectionate disposition. He won the three-legged race with Norman Jenkins in the summer 1915 sports.
He left in July 1915 and went to the London Hospital medical school living in the Platanes, Champion Hill, London SE. He continued his interest in military training and served in the University of London OTC in an artillery unit as a bombardier. He also played in the hospital first rugby XV. He was much liked both by his fellow students and the hospital authorities. He attested as a private in the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery on 19 Jan 1916 and was placed on the special reserve, 18 Reserve Battery, in order that he might continue his medical studies. He was mobilised on 14 Mar 1916 with the 3rd Reserve Brigade as Gunner 130253.
He had also submitted an application on 25 Feb 1916 for a temporary commission in the Regular Army. At his medical he was 5ft 9ins tall, and had a 36½ins chest with a 2½in expansion. He had a fresh complexion, brown eyes, black hair, 6/6 vision and was fit for general service. In his application he declared that he had suffered double pneumonia but was in good health

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
otherwise. He had a very good military character, was sober and reliable. He had served 170 days as a gunner. He was accepted as Cadet 130253 to the Officer Cadet Brigade (3 B Reserve Brigade), RFA Exeter on 17 Mar 1916. He was discharged to a commission as 2nd Lieutenant at Topsham Barracks, Exeter on 6 July 1916. He served as Traffic Officer with 37 Div HQ attached from 3 Div Ammunition Column. Later in 1917 he applied to resume his medical studies due to extenuating financial circumstances. He would not normally have been eligible for a discharge because he was not a 4th or 5th year medical student but ACI (Army Council Instruction) 2890 Para 3 e of 1916 allowed applications for demobilisation if the candidate was a special case. He explained that he was the only child of the widow of a naval surgeon and had always been dependent on his mother for his upkeep. He had taken his 1st MB at Epsom College and obtained a College scholarship to the London Hospital. He had completed four months of his second year when he left and joined the army with a view to obtaining a commission. Owing to the age of his mother who was a trained nurse and pursuing that profession and his financial circumstances he felt compelled to apply to return to his studies because if he did not take advantage of the current circumstances he would be unable to continue his medical career after the war. He was given permission to resume his medical studies and left his unit on 1 June 1917. He embarked Boulogne 3 June 1917 and arrived Folkestone later that day. Once home he asked for three weeks leave as he had not taken any leave for 10 months whilst in France. His mother now had health issues. Three weeks was seldom granted but because he was going to resume his medical studies, his request was met. He was demobilised on 28 June 1917. On 15 July 1917 he wrote to the War Office to enquire if he was still entitled to wear army uniform, and if there was any other authority other than the War Office 128 222/2 necessary to satisfy local recruiting activities. He was not allowed to wear uniform whilst demob unless attending a military ceremony. He died in the London Hospital of a long illness contracted on service. He bore this with characteristic cheerfulness and great patience.

Ernest was awarded the British and Victory medals which were sent to his mother at The Oaks, Trentham, Stoke on Trent. An application for a pension was made on behalf of Mrs Stearn by an “official friend” because of her difficult financial position.

Sources:
CWGC Not listed
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Scrap books and Yellow book
Epsomian
London Gazette 15 July 1916
Medal Index Roll (roll Off/132 Page 695E)
TNA WO 339/56108
University of London OTC Memorial book
Regimental number 130253
Mathew Reginald Steel (MRS), often referred to as Rex, was born in Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire in April 1896 (GRO 9d 576) the eldest child of Dr William Steel, a medical practitioner, and his wife Agnes Jane Macpherson. Dr Steel practised in Middlesbrough and there were three other sons in the family of whom one, John, also served with the Northumberland Fusiliers as a T/Lieutenant in WW1, going on later to become a brick manufacturer and farmer. James and William became doctors, William serving as a Squadron Leader R.A.F.V.R. in WW2. All four boys went to Epsom College.

In 1908 (MRS) was enrolled at the College by his father who was living in Southfield Villas, Middlesbrough. He and his brother John entered Fayrer House, then part of the lower school, in the autumn of 1908 and MRS was placed in the 1st Form of the Lower School where he came 2nd out of 14 in class that year. In 1910 he moved on to Carr House and the 1911 census shows him and John resident at the College although Mathew’s surname is misspelt with a final ‘e’. It would appear that he may have started in a lower form than was appropriate because his subsequent progress through the school on the Classics side did not reflect the promising start and finds him near the lower end of the class at the end of each year. He left from the upper Fourth in 1913. This rather undistinguished start gave few clues to the outstanding military service which was to follow. From the College he went up to study medicine at Newcastle and joined the Durham University OTC. However when war broke out in 1914, rather than continue with his medical studies to join the RAMC later, he chose to apply for an immediate commission and joined the 7th Service Battalion of the Alexandra Princess of Wales Own (Yorkshire Regiment) as a 2nd Lieutenant in September 1914. Unfortunately a recent operation for appendicitis rendered him unfit for overseas service and he was transferred to the 11th Reserve Battalion. With no intention of remaining in the reserve he immediately applied for a transfer to the Northumberland Fusiliers and in due course joined the 27th Battalion, of the 103rd (Tyneside Irish) Brigade, in the 34th Division. In March 1916 he was promoted to Lieutenant (LG 29651 p6607).

The story of the Tyneside Irish 24th, 25th, 26th, & 27th, (Service) Battalions of the Northumberland Fusiliers has been vividly described by John Sheen in his book of that title and what follows below will it is hoped add to information described in much greater detail there.

The 27th Battalion (4th Tyneside Irish) was formed in Newcastle in January 1915. In March they moved with the rest of the Brigade to Woolington Park just west of Newcastle and in due course south to Salisbury Plain for further training and manoeuvres. In January 1916 the brigade moved to France, the 27th Battalion leaving Folkestone for Boulogne on the 11th January. Towards the end of February the 27th experienced trench warfare for the first time when they moved into the Bois...
Grenier region of the line. In May the brigade moved south towards Amiens ready to take up position in the front line before La Boisselle in preparation for the ‘big push’, the Battle of the Somme.

The carnage which took place when the troops went ‘over the top’ on the morning of the 1st July 1916 has been told by others and will not be repeated here. Sufficient to say, using the words of the General commanding the 34th Division Major General Ingouville Williams, quoted by John Sheen in his book, “the Division which included the Tyneside Irish and Scottish covered itself with glory on 1st July 1916, but its losses were very heavy”. The 27th Battalion with MRS as a young lieutenant took part in that battle and somehow he survived. Many of his fellow officers and soldiers did not.

On 2nd of July what was left of the 34th Division was withdrawn from the battle, the 27th Battalion moving out on the 4th July to Bouzincourt and then Hennencourt Wood. So great were their losses that it was necessary to amalgamate the remnants of the battalions of the Tyneside Irish Brigade and the 24th and 27th joined forces to become the 24/27 Northumberland Fusiliers. Very soon they were back in action in the newly established front line but by the New Year the 27th was back in the Bois Grenier area. On the 9th of April 1917 they played their part in the Battle of Arras, private Ernest Sykes of the 27th Battalion being awarded the VC.

Now an Actg/Capt. (LG 30206 p 7735) MRS fought in the third Battle of Ypres (July to November 1917) and on 22nd October the 24/27 Battalion, now attached to 102 Brigade, took part in the action at Poelcappelle described by Peter Hart in his book on the Great War as an “utter failure” and by another writer as “a stinking nightmare morass of wreckage, bodies and water” where the soldiers literally drowned in the quagmire which the battlefield had become in the winter rains, as they advanced towards the Passchendaele ridge. For his gallantry he was awarded his first Military Cross in December 1917 (LG 30431 p 13184). As was often the case the citation for this award was published in a later edition of the Gazette (LG 30645 p 4881): “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his company in an attack, and captured the objective. Then, seeing that an enemy stronghold in front of the division on the right had not been taken, and was likely to hamper the advance, he attacked and captured it with part of his company, taking twenty-five prisoners, two machine guns, and two Granatenwerfer and held it throughout the operations.”

The Model 1916 Granatenwerfer (Grenade Thrower) was designed to give troops in the trench an ability to lob grenades into enemy positions up to a distance of 300 meters. The loss of two of these by the Germans would have been a significant blow.

On 1 November 1917 MRS wrote a letter from France telling a mother of the death of her son, L/Cpl Robert Bulmer who had been killed on the 22 October 1917. This letter which clearly meant so much to his mother, Elizabeth Bulmer, was eventually found almost 100 years later by the young soldier’s great niece, Mrs Susan Bailey, who very kindly allowed the letter to be reproduced here (see below). MRS was serving at that time as O/C ‘A’ Coy. 24/27 (4th Tyneside Irish) Northumberland Fusiliers as an A/Captain.

The battle which had led to the death of the young L/Cpl., his platoon officer and so many others was the First Battle of Passchendaele which began on the 12th October following the failure at Poelcappelle. This attack also failed and not until the Canadians joined in and attacked again in the Second Battle of Passchendaele (26 October – 10 November) was the rubble which was all that remained of the ruined village of Passchendaele taken and the enemy repulsed from the ridge.

The 27th Battalion had suffered grievous casualties in these battles and in February 1918 it was broken up and MRS with 9 other officers and 200 other ranks were transferred to the 8th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers with the 11th Division. This probably explains the error on his MIC which incorrectly dates his entry into France as 7th February 1918. The movement of soldiers between battalions apparently caused confusion in the minds of those in the War Office responsible for the records. In May 1918 he was mentioned in despatches (LG 30698 p 6063) following the despatch of 1st March by Field Marshal Haig dealing with the operations on the Cambrai front during November and December 1917. Shortly afterwards in the King’s Birthday list he was awarded his first DSO (LG 30716 p 6460). As was the custom with awards made on the King’s birthday or at New Year the citation was brief: “Steel, Mathew Reginald, MC Temporary Capt., Northumberland Fusiliers. For distinguished service in connection with military operations in France and Flanders.”

However the war was not yet over for this fighting soldier. The final push on the western front known as The Hundred Days Campaign which was to lead to the Armistice had yet to be fought to its bloody end. By September 1918 the 8th Northumberland Fusiliers were with the 11th (Northern Division) as part of the Canadian Corps, in the 1st Army led by General Sir Henry Horne and between September 27th and October 1st were to take part in the Battle of the Canal du Nord a scene of some of the bitterest fighting of the War. Twelve VCs were awarded following the battle including that to Lord Gort then an A/Lt Col. in the Grenadier Guards, who later as a General was to lead the BEF in WW2. Yet again MRS was to play a distinguished part for which he was awarded a Bar to his Military Cross.

“Lt (T/Capt) Mathew Reginald Steel, D.S.O., M.C North’d Fus. Spec Res. Attd 8th Bn. For marked gallantry and able leadership of a company. On 27th September, 1918, he led his company in the successful attack on Oisy le Verger, and consolidated posts some distance in advance of the objective. Again on 1st October, 1918, after three battalions had been held up by intense machine gun fire, he led his company to the successful assault on the railway near Abancourt, where he established posts and sent back information to headquarters. This position was maintained for four days.” (LG 31680 p15307).

In the final weeks of the war the 8th Battalion went on to participate in the Battle of Cambrai, the pursuit to the Selle and the Battle of the Sambre finally ending the war at Grosse Naie S.W. of Aulnois, France. In June 1919 the Tyneside Irish Battalions were demobilised and the Colours laid up in Newcastle. However the story does not quite end there. Due to the efforts of John Sheen the Regimental Colour of the 27th Battalion was found in a museum. In 2001 he arranged with others for it to be restored and it now hangs in St Mary’s Cathedral in Newcastle.
In March 1919 MRS transferred to the Reserve and relinquished his temporary rank of Captain (LG 31677 p15174) and became a colliery owner and refractory brick manufacturer. In 1921 he married Nancy Macfarlane, daughter of the late Major J.A. Macfarlane, at St Barnabas Church, Middlesbrough. They were to have four children, June, John, Sally and Richard. However he had quickly renewed his connections with the military and when the 4th Battalion of the Green Howards (Territorial) was reformed in 1920 he re-joined his former County Regiment3, retitled on 1 January 1921 as the Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment). He joined as a lieutenant and in 1924 was promoted to captain but was again transferred to the Reserve in 1927. However in 1935 he re-joined the 4th Battalion as a major becoming second in command in 1937. In 1939 he was promoted to Lt/Col in command of the 4th Battalion (LG 34622 p 3002). It appears that shortly after this he was moved to take command of the 6th Battalion and in April 1940 he led that battalion to France to join the BEF3. The 6th Battalion Green Howards was part of the 69th Infantry Brigade in the 23rd (Northumbrian) Division led by Maj.Gen. W.N.Herbert.

For a detailed description of the BEF in WW2 covering the period from October 1939 to July 1940 one can do little better than draw on the despatches of the Commanding in Chief General (later Field Marshall) Lord Gort V.C. (LG 35305 p5905 to 5934). In his first despatch covering the period September 1939 until 31 January 1940 he describes the development of the Force. In his second despatch, covering the period 1st February until 31 May 1940, comment is made in the early part regarding the arrival of the 23rd Division (which included the Green Howards) in April, the troops being allotted to work on aerodrome construction in the forward area. The operations which took place leading up to the Dunkirk evacuation are then broken down into 3 phases which are summarised here with specific reference to the 23rd Division and the 6th Green Howards:-

- **Phase 1 – 10th May to 16th May 1940. (LG p5910)**
  - On 10th May Germany invaded Holland and Belgium and on the 15th the “Dutch Army laid down its arms”. The German armies continued their advance into Belgium and northern France.

- **Phase 2 – 17th May to 26th May 1940 (LG 5912)**
  - The withdrawal began with deployment of the 23rd Division BEF on the Canal du Nord on a 15 mile front, something which must have been particularly poignant for both MRS and his commanding General after their experiences there in 1918. By now the enemy had reached the Somme. The 23rd Division together with the 12th (Eastern) and 46th Infantry Divisions had been sent to France on labour and training duties without any artillery, signals or administrative units and with little training. Gort paid particular tribute to them in his despatch (LG p 5913): “Nevertheless troops of these three divisions, fought and marched continuously for a fortnight, and proved, if proof were needed, that they were composed of soldiers who, despite their inexperience and lack of equipment, could hold their own with a better found and more numerous enemy.” The 6th Green Howards were fortunate to be led by such a battle hardened and experienced leader as Lt/Col M R Steel MC DSO.

  - On the 19th May the 23rd was ordered to withdraw from the Canal du Nord. The Division was attacked by enemy aircraft as it embussed to make the move but finally, what remained of it, ended up 6 miles east of Arras. On 20th Maj. Gen. Franklyn who was leading the remnants of the 5th and 50th Divisions was ordered by General Gort to relieve “the remains of the 23rd Division” which he did fighting his way out and eventually withdrawing eastwards.

  - By the 22nd (LG p5918) the enemy had reached the left bank of the river Aa between Gravelines and St Omer. “23rd Division had been ordered to move to this area and its leading battalion (6th Green Howards) arrived at Gravelines, Brigadier Usher therefore held the right bank of the river from St Omer to Gravelines and this battalion and 5 batteries of heavy artillery used as infantry in conjunction with certain French troops -----etc.” Inexorably the enemy advance continued and as communications began to break down the BEF withdrew further towards the coast. By 23rd May (LG p 5921) Calais was isolated. The 36th Royal Tank Regt. was trapped apart from 3 cruiser tanks and one other which broke out and eventually arrived at Dunkirk via Gravelines. These tanks met the 6th Green Howards and together they were to play a significant role in delaying the German advance on Dunkirk.

- **Phase 3 – 26th May to 31st May 1940 (LG p 5923).**
  - On 26th May the final decision to withdraw was made. In the evening of the 27th May a telegram was received by General Gort from the Secretary of State which read: “---want to make it quite clear that task now is to evacuate to England maximum of your force possible”. On the 29th Belgium capitulated and that evening the 23rd Division, which included the 6th Green Howards and the 46th Division, were told to proceed to Dunkirk for evacuation. They finally left for England on the 2nd June and were amongst the last troops to leave7. When the number of troops remaining had dwindled to a small number Gort was ordered by the War Office to hand over to Maj. Gen. Alexander and return to England which he did on HMS Hebe at 2am on the 1st June. After reconnoitring off the Dunkirk beaches in a small launch to make sure no troops remained, Alexander left for England at midnight on 2/3rd of June.
  - “In all 211,532 fit men and 13,053 casualties were embarked at Dunkirk and the beaches, in addition to 112,546 allied troops”. The campaign had lasted just 22 days.

For more detail of the significant part played by the 6th Battalion Green Howards in the campaign attention is drawn to the book “The Story of The Green Howards” by Capt W.A.Synge7. For his part in leading them at Dunkirk their Colonel received a Bar to the DSO he had received in the Great War:-

Awarded May 23rd 1940: Bar to Distinguished Service Order. (LG 34975 p 6113)
Lieutenant Colonel Mathew Reginald Steel DSO. MC The Green Howards (Alexandra Princess of Wales Own Yorkshire Regiment)
Territorial Army.

“Lieut-Col Steel had only three companies of his battalion with which to defend the town of Gravelines and to deny the river crossing to the enemy. He personally collected four tanks and small parties of troops who were lost and with these and the three companies, although heavily engaged by enemy artillery and aircraft, repulsed a determined attack by a strong force of tanks. By his gallantry and resource the enemy attack on Dunkirk from the west was considerably delayed.3”

Shortly after this he received the Territorial Efficiency decoration. Having recovered from Dunkirk, in the spring of 1941 he was sent south to command the Young Soldiers Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment. Sadly however on the 21st August 1941 the Portsmouth Evening News, reported that he had died suddenly the night before at the Anglesey Hotel, Alverstoke. He had been to a party in the early evening, and retired to his bedroom after a meal at the hotel. Later he complained of pains under the heart, and the medical officer was called. By the time the doctor arrived he had died of an acute heart attack (myocardial infarction). He was 45.

He was buried with full military honours in his hometown, Great Ayton in North Yorkshire in a grave marked by the Commonwealth War Grave Commission. (Sec. K Grave 22).

Perhaps the final words on this courageous soldier’s life are best left to his former Regimental Sergeant Major, H.G. Wetheritt, which followed the obituary in the regimental gazette: “It was my good fortune to make his acquaintance during my time at Middlesbrough as Permanent Staff Inspector, and a better gentleman and a soldier I could not wish to meet”.

Sources:

Ancestry
London Gazette (LG)
Forces War Records
General Registrar Office - GRO
1Epsom College Register 1855-1954
2Epsom College Yellow Books
3Green Howards Gazette Sept. 1941. Obituary p144
4The Great War 1914-1918 by Peter Hart; 2013 p366. Profile Books Ltd.
6Medal Index Card (MIC) WO 372/19/29834
8The Green Howards Museum, Richmond, N Yorks. DL10 4QN

Steel's grave at Great Ayton

Copy of letter written by A/Capt. MR Steel after the death of a soldier at Passchendaele.

Courtesy Susan Bailey, Great Niece of L/Cpl Robert Bulmer.
Steele, Russel Vyvyan

Entered Epsom College: 1900

Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Stein, Alex Ramsay Campbell

Entered Epsom College: 1906

Regiment: T/Lt. Green Howards 1914-18

Researcher: Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Stein, Alex Ramsay Campbell, brother of C. D. P. S. (1902), b. 1894, L.S. and F., l. 1911, banker, T/Lt. Green Howards 1914-18, d. 1945

Stein, Charles Disney Pender

Entered Epsom College: 1902

Regiment: Pte. Canadian Engineers. Killed in action 1915

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

STEIN Charles Disney Pender Sapper 45014, 3 Field Coy, 1st Canadian Division of Engineers

Died 24/05/16 aged 25

Buried Vlamertinghe Mil Cem, Belgium

Reference: I. A. 19.
Charles was born 4 October 1890 (GRO Ref: Dec 1890 Shipston on Stour Warwickshire 6d 592) the son of Charles Stein and his wife Mary Mackenzie nee Leith. His parents were Scottish and had married in 1886. Charles junior was baptised in Shipston on Stour parish church 20 October 1890. His father was a physician.

In the 1891 census the family was living in Church Street, Shipston on Stour. Charles’ father was a 28 year old doctor of medicine and duty registrar. His wife Mary was 30. Six month old Charles had a sister Ellen M aged 2

Charles’ father enrolled him to start at Epsom College on 24 September 1902. He started in a House in the Lower School and then progressed to Forest House in the Upper School. At the time the family was living in Park House, Shipston on Stour. Charles struggled academically for his first three years at the College finishing near the bottom of the form, but improved in the Middle IVth form when he finished 10th out of 22 pupils and had a piece of work shown to the headmaster. He did not have time to capitalise on this improvement as he left at Christmas 1907.

After school Charles had worked as a bank clerk for the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC). He joined the North Vancouver, British Columbia branch, April 1, 1911. In the 1911 census Charles’ parents were living in a 14 roomed property, probably Park House, in Shipston on Stour, with a cook and a housemaid.

After the outbreak of war military recruiters travelled around businesses in Canada to encourage young men to join up. Charles attested for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force from North Vancouver branch of RBC, on August 12, 1914, in the Canadian Engineers,

He had an Army Medical on 9 Sept 1914 in Valcartier Camp, Quebec, Canada. He was 5ft 7ins tall, had 34in chest expanding to 36ins, and 4 vaccination marks on left arm. He had a dark complexion, grey eyes, and brown hair.

He was present at Ypres and other engagements. He was killed in action near Ypres, May 24, 1916.

Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery near Ypres in Belgium I A 19.

Sources:
Attestation papers
Canadian virtual War memorial
Census returns
CWGC
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Yellow Book
Royal Bank of Canada roll of honour

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Stein, Charles Disney Fender, s. of dr. Charles Stein of Shipton-on-Stour, b. 1890, L.S. and F., l. 1907, occupation unknown, Pte. Canadian Engineers, brother of A. R. C. S. (1906), killed in action 1915

Stevens, Elwyn Valentine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Died in service</th>
<th>Buried</th>
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<td>1905</td>
<td>Pte Linc. Regt.</td>
<td>27/01/15</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Lincoln Cemetery, Lincolnshire</td>
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Reference: SD.G104A

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elwyn was born Acton Middlesex 15 Feb 1892 (GRO Ref: Mar 1892 Brentford 3a 138) the son of Henry Valentine Stevens and Emily his wife. His parents had married the year before (June 1891 Pancras 1b 129). He was baptised on 25 March 1892 at All Saints Church, South Acton.

In the 1901 census the family was living at 17 Fairlawn, South Acton. Elwyn’s father was 37 and a law publisher. His mother was 35. Elwyn was 9 and had a sister Mary Beatrice. He had a second sister Kathleen who was not listed at this address in the census. The family employed a servant.

Elwyn’s father enrolled him to start in the Lower IVth form of Epsom College, in Wilson House on 19 Jan 1905. At the time his father was a law publisher of Sutton and the family was living at Blendon Lodge, Albion Road, Sutton. Elwyn had a good academic record at the school. In 1905 he came 4th out of 20 boys in the Lower IV form; the following year
he was fifth out of 22 boys in the upper IVth. In 1907 he came 2nd out of 24 boys in Shell form. He won a Senior Scholarship in the Upper Vth form in 1908 and in 1909 qualified for London matriculation having previously obtained his Higher School certificate in 1908. He left in 1909.

In the 1911 census Elwyn was living with his widowed mother in the 10 roomed Blendon Lodge, Albion Road, Sutton. In Jan he 1912 passed the Inland Revenue open competition to become an assistant surveyor of taxes. He also served two years in the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) as a territorial.

He enlisted 17 Sept 1914 in Grimsby and served in the Grimsby Bn of the 10th Lincolnshire Regiment. The 10th was one of the new army battalions raised by Lord Kitchener on 9 September 1914 and became known as the Grimsby Chums. His medical record described him as 5ft 11 ½ ins tall, weighed 150 lbs, had a 33in chest with 4 inch expansion, fresh complexion, grey eyes, and brown hair. He had a good physical development and had been vaccinated as an infant. He gave his mother as next of kin, living at Beechbrook, Norman Road, Sutton.

He was admitted to the Northern General Hospital in Lincoln on 19 Jan 1915, whilst on training. He died of pneumonia on 27 Jan 1915. He is buried in Newport Cemetery Lincoln Grave D 104A. His address for probate was 45 Russell Terrace, Leamington Spa, and it stated that he died in the Lincoln City hospital. His effects were valued at £302 and administration was granted to his mother.

His mother received a commemorative scroll on 3 December 1920. She was living at Arthoy, Cissbury Road, Broadwater Green, Worthing.

Sources
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow book
Free BMD
Probate Records
Service papers
STORY George Ernest Lieutenant, Royal Engineers
Died of wounds: 9 September 1917

George was born on 13 September 1860 the son of John and Harriet (GRO Ref: Dec 1860 London 1c 565). He was baptised on 11 Nov 1860 in the church of St Peter, Stepney with his twin brother Thomas Arthur. His father was a surgeon living at St Peters Road, Stepney.

George’s mother died in 1861.

In the 1871 census 10 year old George was living at 7 Westbourne Terrace Road, Paddington with his 62 year old widowed father, and his siblings Harriet aged 26, Ellen 21, and Frederic 14. The family employed 2 servants and had a visitor, John Farmer.

George entered Epsom College in September 1873. Very little is known about his time at the school other than he played in the first Cricket XI in 1877. He left in August that year.

In the 1881 census the family is recorded at 7 West Terrace Road, Paddington (This may be the same location as in 1871). George 20 was a student architect and surveyor and living with his 71 year old father and sister Harriet 36, with a housemaid and cook.

In the 1891 census George was visiting the Marsh family at The Grange, Alveston, Derbyshire. It may be that George knew Evelyn’s brother Albert as they were both shown as civil engineers.

George married Evelyn Flora Mary Martin Marsh in 1893 (GRO Ref: Sept 1893 Shardlow 7b 632)

In 1901 the couple was living in Egginton Road, Etwall, Derbyshire with their three children: Thomas aged 6, Anthony aged 2 (shown in error as Thomas) and a daughter Margaret who was 4. George’s sister-in-law, Eugenie, was staying with them and they employed a cook and a nurse maid.

In the 1890s and up to 1902 George was trading with Messrs Ives, Thomas and Webster as the Universal Sewage Purification Company in Derby.

In the 1911 census they were living in a 7 roomed house at 14 Park Road, North Bedford. George, aged 50, was a civil engineer and surveyor. His wife Evelyn Flora Mary Martin was 47 and they had three children: Thomas Hidworth aged 16, Margaret Minishull 14 John Anthony 12. They had been married 17 years and all three of their children were still living.

George joined the Royal Engineers and went to France on 28 Feb 1917. I have been unable to find his Army file.

He died 8/9 Sept 1917 in Wandsworth hospital and is buried in Earlsfield Cemetery Plot Grow 18 Grave 159. Probate granted to widow Evelyn 3 Dec 1917 estate valued at £207 9s 9d living at 14 Park Road North Bedford. George was awarded the British war and victory medals which were sent to widow at 28 Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.

Sources:
Epsom College register
Census returns
CWGC
Medal Index card and award roll.
Probate record.
TNA WO file not found.

Stott, Edwin

Regiment: Commodore, merchant service. Died following torpedo attack, Rank Master

Died 07/12/16 aged 47
Buried Tower Hill Memorial, London
STOTT Edwin Master, Merchant Service
Killed: 7 Dec 1916

Edwin was born on 14 July 1861 (GRO Ref: Sept qtr 1861 Lewisham 1d 693), the ninth child of Hugh Stott and Janette Cotterrell nee Godwin. His parents had married in 1851 (GRO Ref: June qtr 1851 Lewisham 5 376) His father was the surgeon and medical officer for the Lewisham district where he practiced for 22 years. He died in 1869 leaving his widow and 10 children in very narrow circumstances. He had been a subscriber to Epsom College and in 1870 the family applied for a Foundation Scholarship at the college for Edwin. At this time their address was the Royal Kent Dispensary, Greenwich. Their first application was not successful.

In 1871 nine year old Edwin was living with his widowed mother, aged 42, at 9 St Stephens Road, Lee with his two younger siblings George aged 8 and Olave 7. His mother was maintaining the family by the income she received from interest. They employed one servant. Further tragedy struck when his mother died in that year.

Edwin was awarded a Foundation Scholarship and entered Epsom College 1872. Little is known of his time at the College. He left in summer 1878 and joined the Merchant Navy. He became First Mate on 10 Mar 1886 and gained his Master's Certificate on 5 July 1889.

He married Azila Marianne Smith in 1892 (GRO Ref: June qtr 1892 Southwell 7b 710) of 5 Boxwell Rd, Berkhamstead, Herts. 1901 census shows Azila aged 35 living at 5 Boxwell Road, Berkhamstead with their children 5 year old Azila and 3 year old Robert. They employed one general servant. Edwin was presumably at sea.

In the 1911 census Edwin and his family were living at 5 Boxwell Road, Berkhamsted. They had been married for 17 years and had 3 children all of whom were living:

Azila Marianne 1896, and Janet Mary Azila 1903 were living at home and Robert Edwin Hugh Stott born 1899 was a boarder at Overton House School, Berkhamsted.

Edwin served in the Mercantile Marine and was Master on SS Conch. He was drowned on 7 December 1916 following a torpedo attack. The Conch was a vessel of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company. She was built in 1909 by the Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson shipyard. The ship's displacement was 5620 tons with dimensions of 400 x 51.3 x 29.5 feet. Her 448 nominal horsepower triple-expansion engines provided a maximum speed of 11 knots. She left Tilbury on 28 October 1916 for the Far East. She called in at Gibraltar on her way home in November before making her way up the Channel home. The vessel was torpedoed at 23.00 by a submarine, UB23, and her cargo of 8000 tonnes of benzene ignited. A British destroyer spotted the burning ship at 0300 on 8 December and tried to assist but was kept back by the flames. They threw life rafts into the water and advised men to jump and also managed to get alongside the Conch to get some men off. SS Conch sank 12 miles south by west of Anvil Point near Swanage, Dorset with the loss of 28 lives including Edwin.

Probate was granted to his widow on 9 Mar 1917. He left £2004 17s 2d.

He is remembered on the Tower Hill Memorial, London and on the Berkhamstead Memorial

Sources:
Census returns
Epsom College register
Free BMD
Newspaper articles
Probate

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Stott, Edwin, s. of Hugh Stott, surgeon, of Lewisham, b. 1861, l. 1878, commodore, Merchant Service, drowned following torpedo attack, 1916

Stovin, George Horace Tetley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
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<td>T/Lt. R.F.A. 1916-18</td>
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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Strange, Ernest William

Strange, Ernest William (1879-1969).  
Epsom College: 1891-1898  
ERNEST WILLIAM STRANGE (1879-1969). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.D. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1891-1897. prefect. Sterry Prize] was the son of Dr Arthur Strange of Shrewsbury, and brother of Leonard Francis Strange [Epsom College 1899-1902], and the Rev. Geoffrey Lionel Strange [Epsom College 1899-1901]. He received his medical education at Guy's Hospital, and was appointed Obstetric Resident. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1914-1918), in France and Belgium. After the War he was appointed Honorary Consultant Anaesthetist at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and Staffordshire General Hospital. He was one of the first two anaesthetists to be appointed in Wolverhampton at a time where the practice of anaesthesia was in its infancy. “In his late seventies he continued to give anaesthetics and it caused him much amusement when his many friends started referring to him as the senior anaesthetist in the Commonwealth”. He was a Senior Fellow of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain, and a Life Member of the Midland Society of Anaesthetists.

Strange, Leonard Francis

Strange, Leonard Francis, brother of E. W. S. (1891), b. 1886, F., l. 1902, employed by the Eastern Telegraph Company, T/Lt. Border Regt. 1915-18; Honeybourne Cottage, Bradley Green, Redditch

Stretton, Samuel Houghton

Stretton, Samuel Houghton

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Howard was born on 15 Aug 1892 at Sutton, Surrey (GRO ref Epsom 2a 1d), the only son of Ernest Howard Strong and his wife Ada Mary J nee Haile. His parents had married in 18918 (GRO ref Dec 1891 Brighton 2b 474).

In 1901 the family was living in a house called Kingsmuir, in Worcester Rd, Sutton. Ernest Strong was 36 and an underwriting member of Lloyds. His wife Ada was 42. They had 3 children: Howard aged 8, Ruby Ada aged 7 (GRO Ref June 1898 Epsom 2a 5) and Kate Esmé aged 3 (GRO Ref Dec 1893 Epsom 2a 13). They employed a cook, a nurse, an under-nurse and a housemaid to look after their family.

I have been unable to find Howard in the 1911 census. His parents were still living in the Worcester Rd house and his sisters Ruby and Kate were at a boarding school in Westgate-on-Sea in Kent. The family employed a single parlour maid. The census return showed that their home had 15 rooms, and that Howard was one of three children, all of whom were living.

Howard attended Epsom College from 3 May 1904, firstly in the Lower School and then progressed to Wilson House in the Senior School where he remained until 1910. He had an unremarkable career academically usually finishing in the bottom 20% of his form. In 1908 he came 20th out of 23 boys in the Shell form and for some reason was absent for the examinations so he re-took the year and completed in 16th position out of 25 boys.

He engaged in a range of activities and was a competent all round sportsman. In the autumn term 1909 he won his first XV colours for rugby. He played in the hockey First XI in 1910 and won his colours for Fives. He was made a house prefect in 1909. He was a sergeant in the OTC.

He served two years in the Special Reserve of the Queen’s and then passed the Competitive Exam of Officers of the Special Reserve, Militia and Territorial Force in Oct 1912 to become a 2nd Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion in December 1912. He was interested in flying and attained his RAC Aviator’s certificate on 3 Sept 1913 having trained on a Bristol biplane at the Bristol School, Brooklands aerodrome Surrey. He was also a member of the Junior Army and Navy Club.

Howard served with the Expeditionary Force to France and Flanders. While at the front he was promoted to Lieutenant in September 1914. He participated in the Battles of Mons, the Aisne and the Marne and was killed in action north of Gheluvelt near Ypres whilst acting as captain of C Company. There is uncertainty over the precise date of his death which varies from 29 October (Soldiers Died and CWGC)30 October (Death announcement in the Times and Bond of Sacrifice) through to 31 October (Probate). According to his file he was killed just prior to an attack by the enemy on 31 October 1914. All his fellow officers in the company were killed or taken prisoner, so there were no witnesses who could confirm the exact date and whether he had been buried. The trenches occupied by his commanding officer were 50 yards east of the ruined Gheluvelt windmill. He is remembered on the Menin Gate memorial Ypres.

The following article appeared in the Epomian:

“‘An honest worker in the scrum but slow in the open’. Such is his character in the Football Critiques: and it was true of his whole life. Without brilliance he was always an honest worker in school and out of school. Honest, manly and straightforward: liked and respected by boys and masters. He was killed in action at Ypres on October 30th and though we know no details, we may be sure that he died as he lived doing his best.” ENG Epomian.

Administration of his effects was granted to Charles Edward Kenneth Mensies civil engineer and was assessed at £78 6s 11d. Charles was Howard’s brother in law, husband of his sister Ruby.

Probate was not granted until 8 May 1946 when a reversionary interest under the will of his grandmother Ellen Strong, who had died in 1868, was settled. The Ellen Strong trust funds comprised securities which in 1945 when the last tenant died were valued at £2378 11s. Howard’s estate was entitled to 1/17 of this ie about £140.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strong, Howard Bertie</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>The Queens (RWS R)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Ypres Menin Gate Mem, Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/10/14</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>aged 22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Reference: Panel 11
His father received a plaque and scroll commemorating his death and also wrote requesting Howard’s valise and any kit. At time of Howard’s death his father lived at 30 Bramham Gardens, South Kensington.

Sources:
Bond of Sacrifice Page 384
Census 1901, 1911-not found
CWGC
De Ruvigny
Epsom Register
Epsomian
Free BMD
Probate
Soldiers died
Surrey Mirror 14 Nov 1914
Times/Newspaper Y +Surrey Mirror 20 Nov 14
TNA WO339/7971 long no.16575/4

Picture reproduced from RAC records on Ancestry.co.uk
Photograph from Howard Strong's flying certificate

Strong in uniform, about 1912

Howard Strong's father requests the War Office to forward his kit
Struthers, William Arthur

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Regiment: 'Army surgeon'

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Struthers, William Arthur, s. of A. J. Struthers, army surgeon, b. 1887, L.S., l. 1901

Stubbs, Eric Charles

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: Anzac Mounted Division

Researcher:

Corporal Eric Charles Stubbs
#1383

Father: Charles Stubbs of Ashstead, Surrey
Enlisted AIF Toowomba 30/11/1915
28 Years 4 months

Trade: Station Overseer

11th Battalion /5th Light Horse Regiment ( part of the 4th Division - 2nd Light Horse, 4th Infantry Brigade- Anzac Mounted Division )
12th Australian infantry brigade, 4th division 47th battalion – France

Promoted to Lance Corporal 8.12.1916 ( in the field France ) for “coolness and promptness “ whilst in charge of a bombing post.

(The Fifth Light Horse Regiment was raised in Brisbane in Sept.1914 entirely from men who enlisted in QLD. And became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade)
The Fourth Division began forming in Egypt in February 1916. The Second Light Horse became part of The Anzac Mounted Division and in February 1916 joined the forces defending the Suez Canal from a Turkish advance across the Sinai desert ) – of which Eric Stubbs would have been a part.

The 5th Light Horse’s main activity in the Sinai was long – range patrolling , but it was involved in several engagements during August 1916 as the Turks retreated after their defeat at Romani.

Summary Highlights:

February 1916: Eric Marched out to Serapeu ( Egypt )
April 1916: Returned unit Salhia
May 1916: Sick to hospital Dueisear
July 1916: Invalid to England on “HS GALERA”
Oct 1916: Training at the 12th battalion in England
22nd Sept. 1916: Embarked overseas to France : Transferred to the 47th battalion (12th infantry ) and joined in the field 3/10/1916
(Divisions of the AIF began transferring to France from Egypt in March 1916 )

Eric would have joined the 4th Division relieving the exhausted 2nd division. The Australian 4th Division were called upon – as second tour of the Somme – to attack MOUQUET FARM in Sept 1916 and then as a third tour at FLERS in October 1916. Ultimately the 4th Division suffered 4649 casualties. As that battle dragged on the Canadian Corps took over from the Australians. )

20/01/1917: Wounded in action – septic arm :
28/01/1917 : H.S. “WARILDA” to England - 1st London General Hospital

England :
23/03/1917: Transferred to the 69th Battalion
24/4/1917: Transferred back to the 5th Light Horse

(Eric was lucky, he missed the 1st Battle at Bullecourt 11/4/17 where 1170 Australian prisoners were taken by the Germans )

18/6/1917: Proceeded overseas to Egypt to rejoin the 5th
6/7/1917: Disembarked (Alexandria ) at Kinfauns Castle , Marseilles

The third assault was launched on GAZA , between 31/10/17 and 7/11/17 units from the Anzac Mounted Division and the Australian mounted Division took part in the assault battle. The battle was a complete success for the Allies. The Gaza – Beersheba line was completely overrun and 1200 turkish soldiers were captured or surrendered.

Late November 1917: Eric was in Kantara , Abbassia and El Ariah.  
( Eric was sick in hospital during that time ) – Diarrhea and Dysentry

11/01/1918: Discharged to duty Abbassia

16/03/1918: Marched in with the 2nd Light Horse – Moascar
12/06/18: Transferred to the 5th Light horse – Moascar

The Australian mounted troops assisted in pushing the Turkish forces out of Palestine. And took part in the battle of Jersualem and the battle of Megiddo. The Turkish government signed an Armistice on the 28/10/918. And out right surrendered 2 days later.

Eric returned to Australia on the 3/8/1919 and was discharged on the 4/10/919.
A Star medal, British war medal and Victory medal were awarded.

Side note: There is a memorial to the Australian Light Horse in Tamworth N.S.W. And a memorial to the 4th Light Horse for Beersheba in Israel.
Sturridge, Reginald Frederick

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Regiment:

House:

Rank:

Decorations: M.C.

Researcher:

OE Doctors

Sugden, Philip Lange

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Capt. R.G.A. 1914-18

Regiment:

House:

Rank:

Decorations: M.C.

Researcher:

OE Doctors

Sumner, Geoffrey

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Lt. (S.R.) R.A. 1914-18

Regiment:

House:

Rank:

Decorations:
Sutcliff, Capt. Archibald Alfred

Birth Year: 1881
Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: Capt. R.A.M.C. d. as prisoner in Germany in WW1
Unit: RAMC
Died: 12/03/15 aged 33
Buried: Berlin SW Cemetery, Germany

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

SUTCLIFFE Archibald Alfred Capt. RAMC
Died: 12 Mar 1915

Archie was born on 17 December 1881 (GRO Ref March 1882 Torrington 5B 506) in Great Torrington, Devon, the son of Dr Edward Sutcliff and Fanny his wife.

In spring 1881 the family was living at 1, Moreton House, Great Torrington where Edward Sutcliff aged 42 was the local doctor. Although he had been born in Camberwell, he gained his medical qualification in Aberdeen, Scotland. His wife Fanny was 37 and they had four children: Georgina 11, Edith 9, Edward Harvey 8 and Lucy Constance 4. The three elder children had been born in Wandsworth and only Lucy had been born in Great Torrington suggesting that the family had moved to Devon between 1873 and 1877. The family employed a governess, cook and a housemaid. In 1879 Edward and Fanny had another son, but he was still born.

In the 1891 census nine year old Archie was living at Moreton Villa, Great Torrington, with his 52 year old father and his mother who was 47. Archie’s two older sisters Georgina Maud 21, Edith F19, and a younger brother George who was five were living at home. His maternal aunt, Georgina Williams was living with the family along with a 24 year old medical assistant. They also employed a servant.

He followed his brother Edward to Epsom College Propert House on 24 Sept 1895. He won the Brande Essay Prize in 1900 and became a prefect. He played rugby in the Second XV (1897-1900),, and was in the gymnastics VIII (1898-1900). He was also a lieutenant in the Rifle Corps and became the School Subaltern in Sept 1899. He left in 1900 to study medicine at St Thomas’s Hospital and London University where he attained his MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP in 1905.

On 29 Jan 1900 Archie’s father died at Great Torrington. In the 1901 census Archie and his family were living at the same address. His mother was a widow, Archie was 19, George 15. They had a housemaid and a cook looking after them.

He entered the Army Medical Corps 30 Nov 1905 and was gazetted Lieut (on probation) on 30 Jan 1906. In 1907 he was confirmed in rank of Lieut in RAMC and won De Chaumont Prize for Hygiene at RAMC College. On 30 July 1909 he was promoted to captain. From 1907-1910 he was stationed in Singapore.

He married in 1910 the South African born Natalie Mary, although she was a British subject through her parents.

In the 1911 census 29 year old Archie was a Captain in the RAMC stationed in the parish of St Annes on Alderney along with his wife Natalie aged 23.

From letters received by Archie’s mother from a brother officer it was evident that Archie had done noble work in the retreat from Mons in conveying the wounded to Landrecies, finding them quarters and food and seeing them placed in the hospital at one end of the town. The Germans however rushed the town on 31 Aug 1914 and took them all prisoner. He was forwarded to Aix-La Chapelle in a second class carriage and had nothing to complain about on the road. But when they reached the city a German Officer came up to the party of the RAMC and turning round to the mob that surrounded the carriage shouted “These people are the English who call themselves the Royal Army Medical Corps but they are not; they are devils. Instead of attending to our wounded they put their eyes out. Do what you want with them.” As a result the crowd murdered a number of the orderlies in cold blood and invaded the carriage with the intention of making Capt Sutcliff and his fellow officer Captain Routh share their fate. The two officers were rescued by a German officer of senior rank who happened to be passing by. After this incident they had nothing further to complain of for the rest of their journey.

At first they were taken to Halle where they were quite well treated, but they were moved to Burg where conditions and their surroundings were awful. Captain Sutcliff was then separated from Captain Routh and sent to the typhus camp at Wittenburg where conditions were worse than in any of the POW camps and where he died of typhoid about a month after he arrived in the camp. He was one of three doctors in the camp that died whilst also trying to care for POWs. He was known as a doctor of high attainment and had shown judgement and skill in handling his men during the retreat. He had a high standing in the
medical field and was held in high esteem in the Great Torrington area, where he had grown up and his father had practised.

An extract of a British Government committee set up to investigate the conditions of POWs appeared in the Western Times - Tuesday 11 April 1916

"When the typhus became an epidemic at Wittenburg the Germans left the camp to its fate. All supplies were pushed into the camp over shoots. The food for the hospital was passed in on a trolley over about twenty yards of rail worked by winches at either end so as to avoid all contact between the prisoners and the outside world. No medical attention during the whole time was provided by German staff. The six British doctors sent to the camps had, in defiance of the Geneva Convention, been detained as ordinary prisoners of war at Halle. On arrival at Wittenberg they were marched to the camp. They visited the different compounds and were received in apathetic silence. The rooms were unlighted, and the men were aimlessly marching up and down, some were lying on the floor probably sickening for typhus. When they got into the open air again Major Fry, broke down. The horror of it all was more than he could for the moment bear. No mattresses were supplied in the improvised hospital. The result was that many typhus patients would not go into the hospital they hid their condition as long as possible. The diet was hopeless for patients in a fever. In truth the ration was not a ration at all it was a pretence. It was not even possible to give the patients warm water with their milk. Major Fry and Captain Sutcliffe died of typhus about a month after their arrival. Captain Field died later.

There is no doubt in the minds of the committee that the conditions to which the camp authorities had reduced the camp and prisoners they had abandoned were directly responsible for the deaths of these devoted men. Captain Lauder alone of the officers attacked finally recovered. When convalescent he bravely continued his duty. " The dead were buried in a cemetery formed out of a part of the camp. The Germans sent in a certain number of coffins every day, into which the bodies of the dead were put and carried out by their comrades, through a gate in the barbed wire. There was not sufficient room for the burial of so many, and the coffins were piled one upon another. He was buried in Berlin SW Cemetery Germany grave number XIX C 4

At time of his death he was living at Hillcote, West Horsley. Probate was granted to his widow Dec 1916 estate valued at £630 14s. He was awarded the 1914 star and the British War and Victory medals. He was posthumously mentioned in despatches 10 Jan 1919 and 30 Jan 1920

Sources
Epsom college Register m/s
Hart's annual army list
KCL War Memorial site
North Devon Journal 12 Aug 1915
Mother’s Letter in Western Times 13 Aug 1915
POW record 5243

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Sutcliffe in the Gymnasium Team, 1899

Epsom College Archive
**Suter, Harold Edward**

<table>
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**Researcher:**

| DR. CHARLES GALLANNAUGH |

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**OE Doctors**

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<th>C.M.G.</th>
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**Sutton, Surgeon Rear-Admiral Edward**

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**Regiment:** R.N.

**Researcher:**

| DR. CHARLES GALLANNAUGH |

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**Surgeon Rear-Admiral Edward Sutton C.M.G., D.S.M. (U.S.A.), R.N.**

**M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.**

**1870 – 1940**

Edward Sutton (ES) was born on 28 February 1870 (GRO 2a 830) in Sittingbourne, Kent, the youngest child of Dr Henry Grant Sutton (1835-1905) and his wife Ellen Tomson Grayling (1828-1891). Their firstborn, Henry Sutton (1867-?) also went to Epsom College in Carr House in 1880 and there was a
daughter, Juliet (1869-1961) who in 1913 married a doctor, Neil Robson M.B. (1870-1936) who practised in Sittingbourne. The families had been associated with Kent for several generations.

ES was entered at Epsom in 1883 by his father who was then living at Brenchley Park Sittingbourne. He was placed in Carr House following his older brother but detailed records of scholars at the College are not often available before 1887 and as ES left in 1886 little is known about his time there. He moved on from Epsom to study medicine at the London Hospital where he played in the rugger XV.2 He qualified in 1893 and after house appointments at Poplar Hospital, in 1896 he joined the Royal Navy.3

On 13 May 1896 he was posted as a surgeon to the Royal Naval Hospital (RNH) at Plymouth.3 In 1897 he joined his first ship and took part in reprisals to avenge the massacre of a number of officers of the Niger Coast Protectorate carried out by inhabitants organised by the King of Benin near Benin City. A Royal Navy squadron led by Rear-Admiral Sir Harry Rawson in his flagship the 1st Class Protected Cruiser HMS St. George, serving on the Cape and West Africa Station, landed a naval marine brigade to avenge the killings and take reprisals. They marched to Benin and re-took the city in February 1897. Benin was laid waste and King Overami was tried and deposed dying in exile in 1914. ES as a young surgeon lieutenant had to help deal with almost 3000 cases of fever, almost certainly malaria, which occurred amongst the troops involved and he was awarded the Africa Medal and Clasp for his service there.4

In March 1898 he joined HMS Bonaventure a 4360 ton twin screw cruiser at Devonport and in June 1900 was serving with her on the China Station at Wei-hai-Wei on the north coast of the Shantung peninsula during the Boxer Rebellion. The Empress Dowager Tz u-his (Cixi) the de-facto ruler of China for 40 years and well known for her hatred of foreigners and Chinese Christians had allowed the anti-foreigner movement I-ho Chuăn, known as the Boxers because of their fondness for martial arts, to advance on Peking, an act which led to the siege of the legation quarter from 17 June 1900 until relief arrived on 14th August. An international force which included a British Naval Brigade under Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour was formed which advanced from Tientsin to Peking, the British detachment being the first to arrive with Indian troops to restore order. ES was involved in the formation of the base hospital at Wei-hai-Wei which was adapted to treat the wounded from the naval brigade which had set out from Tientsin and in due course he received the China Medal with clasps.5

In April 1902 his medal was sent to the RN Hospital, Plymouth where he had returned in October 1901 to work as Surgeon at the hospital. His progress through the ranks was clearly fast and in 1903 he was promoted to Staff Surgeon. He became a Surgeon Commander (S.Cdr.) in 1905 and in March 1907 when he was at the RNH Haslar he became a Fleet Surgeon in the rank of S.Cdr. He was employed temporarily at that time on the Staff in Whitehall as the final medical examining officer in the recruiting service.3

In February 1911 he joined as Fleet Surgeon the 5600 ton Cruiser HMS Highflyer, the then flagship of Rear Admiral Sir Alexander Bethell C.in C. of the East Indies Station and received the Coronation Durbar Medal to celebrate the visit to India of King George Vth with Queen Mary, the first reigning monarch to visit India.6 He was duly awarded the Persian Gulf Clasp engraved with the words “Persian Gulf 1909-1914” which was attached to the Naval General Service Medal introduced on 10 August 1915 (LG 29258 p7893). The Clasp was awarded to those who had participated in “the suppression of the arms traffic in the Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf ---”.4

In 1912 he received the Gilbert Blane Gold Medal, a prestigious award for officers of the Royal Navy. The medal at that time was awarded upon recommendation by the Medical Director (Navy) to the Presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons and Royal College of Physicians. It had been established by Sir Gilbert Blane (Bart) in 1830 to confer “--- a gold medal once in every two years on each of the two medical officers (Fleet or Staff Surgeons or Surgeons) who shall produce the most approved journals of their practice ‘in the form in which they have been kept from day to day’ while in medical charge of a ship of war in the Royal Navy”. The two Fleet Surgeons who received it in 1912 were Richard C Munday and Edward Sutton.7 In 1913 the rules were changed and from then on it was to be awarded to the medical officer R.N. who achieved the highest mark in his professional examination for promotion to Staff Surgeon.8

In October 1913 he was back at the RNH Haslar and in August 1913 was posted to HMHS “Drina” as Fleet Surgeon with six surgeons and a dentist serving under him along with 4 nursing sisters. The ship was the first to be fitted out in the war for use as a hospital ship and had been requisitioned by the Admiralty in August 1914 to serve with the Grand Fleet. It has been said that Prince Albert, the future King George VI, who took part in the battle of Jutland on HMS Malaya was treated on Drina for a stomach complaint. By October 1916 ES had moved to HMHS Plassy stationed in the Orkneys at Scapa Flow where in June 1917 she was inspected by King George V during his visit to the Grand Fleet. ES served there until October 1917 before moving to Queenstown in Ireland to take over the running of the medical service at the Naval
dockyard and the Royal Alexandra Hospital at Haulbowline. The naval base at Haulbowline had become a very important re-supply base and hospital with a large American presence during WWI from 1917-1919 following the sinking of RMS Lusitania by the German submarine U-20 in May 1915.

In the 1918 Birthday Honours list ES was appointed a Companion of St. Michael and St. George (CMG) before moving from Ireland in November 1919 to act as Secretary to the Medical Consultative Board and the Medical Examining Board, working in the naval office in Whitehall. He was promoted to Surgeon Captain in June 1920 and was then Deputy Medical Director-General (DMDG) Royal Navy. In March 1924 he was promoted to Surgeon Rear-Admiral.

In October 1925 he made a short visit to New York on the Carinthia arriving there on the 5th and leaving on the Mauretania to arrive back at Southampton on the 19th. It seems likely that this was to attend an investiture when he was presented with the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) by the United States for his service in Ireland at Haulbowline.

From 1923-24 he was second in command at RNH Haslar before moving in 1926 to take command as principal medical officer at RNH Chatham. He moved to the retired list in 1929. He published a book “The fitting out and administration of a Naval Hospital Ship” which no doubt was based on his practical experience gained during the war.

He remained a bachelor and in his later years resided at Southolme Street, St. Margaret’s at Cliffe, Kent where he lived with friends to whom he left his modest estate. However he died at Gresham House private hospital in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 5 June 1940 age 70 (GRO 193) and was buried at sea. As Tynemouth is one of the three designated sea burial sites it is perhaps possible that he travelled to Northumberland at the time of his last illness having used his formidable organisational skills to make his own final arrangements.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
2 Epsom College Registers 1855-1905 & Yellow Books.
3 UK Navy Lists 1888-1970
4 Who was Who
5 TNA: ADM 171/55 Medal Roll of Naval and Marine personnel: China; Boxer Rebellion.
6 TNA: ADM171/61
7 TNA: ADM 171/65 image 102
8 TNA: ADM 1/9053
9 TNA: ADM 171/172
10 Obituaries. The Times London 8 June 1940:4
LG: London Gazette
GRO: General Registry Office

Charles S Gallannaugh December 2017

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Swindale, Henry Vernon

<table>
<thead>
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Decorations:

HMM? □

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Swindale, Henry Vernon (1879-1935).
Epsom College: 1893-1895
HENRY VERNON SWINDALE (1879-1935). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), L.S.A. (Lond.) [Epsom College 1893-1895] was the son of Dr J. P. Swindale, of Bracknell, Berkshire, and brother of Dr John Aston Swindale, M.D. [Epsom College 1890-1892]. He received his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital, and went into general practice at Hyde Park, London. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C (1914-1918).

Swinley, Capt. Casper Silas Balfour

- Birth Year: 1913
- Entered Epsom College: 1913
- Regiment: Capt. R.N.
- Decorations: D.S.O., D.S.C.


Sworn, Alfred George

- Birth Year: 1891
- Entered Epsom College: 1891
- Decorations: 


Sylvester, Col. Harold Mayris

- Birth Year: 1912
- Entered Epsom College: 1912
- Regiment: Served R.E. before R. C. of Signals
- Decorations: M.C.

Colonel Harold Mayris Sylvester MC 1898-1952

Harold Mayris Sylvester (HMS) was born on 8 April 1898 at Leiston in the district of Blything in Suffolk (GRO 2nd qtr. 1898 4a p 975). His father Herbert Mayris Sylvester aged 30 was a physician-surgeon born in Wiltshire and by then practising in Leiston. His mother Jessie Mynfreda formerly Wallis aged 24 had been born locally in Leiston. In 1901 Harold age 2 and his sister Catherine a year old and 2 servants were living with the family (England and Wales Census 1901). In 1906 another son was born Charles Holden and then much later in 1922, possibly to the surprise of his parents, Derek George Holden arrived. In 1935
Derek, like his older brother Harold, was sent to Epsom College and later went on to qualify as a doctor at St Mary’s Hospital in London. For reasons that are not clear Harold does not appear in the 1911 Census although the family is still found in Leiston under the name of Herbert Maglis Sylvester clearly a typographical error.

In 1912 Harold won a Council Exhibition to Epsom College which entitled his father to pay a reduced fee for his education. He entered Granville and was in the Middle IV form on the classical side. He was a bright student being 1st out of 18 boys in his first year remaining at the top of the class throughout his stay at Epsom. Unfortunately details for 1915, his final year, are missing from the records. He became a prefect and played in the XV. He left in July 1915.

After leaving school he joined the army. On 18 February 1916 he was gazetted as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers a correction to his name being made in the gazette later (Suppl. L Gaz. 20/04/1916 p 4121). From then on he is often referred to in the records as a member of the Royal Signals although the Royal Corps of Signals was not formed as an independent corps until a Warrant was signed by Winston Churchill as Secretary of State for Defence on 28 June 1920 and confirmed by King George V a short while after. Until then Signals formed part of the Royal Engineers although with ever changing developments in the field of communication this branch of the service was rapidly emerging as an independent entity.

HMS went to France on 14 May 1917 (WW1 Medal Roll Index 1914-1920) serving there and in Belgium moving to the Italian sector from 8 Nov 1917 until 2 March 1918 (Army List 1938-1941 2nd Half). From that date he returned to France where he served with distinction being awarded an MC (London Gaz. 18 Sept 1918 p 11022) the citation reading as follows: “Lt Harold Mayris Sylvester R.E. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as liaison officer during an enemy attack. When all communications had been cut, he laid lines with two cable wagons under heavy shell fire. Later he superintended the construction of a lateral line, and under shell and machine–gun fire caused this line to be successfully put through and maintained.” In addition to the Military Cross he received in due course the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

After the war he remained in the army. He married Ruth Ransom in Nottingham (GRO July 1923 Vol 7b p 770) and they had two sons, Anthony Mayris Ransom born in 1926 in Bucklow Cheshire and Nigel William Herbert born in 1930 in Hartley Wintney, Hampshire. HMS moved from the Engineers to the Royal Signals on its formation in 1920 being promoted to Captain in 1927, Major in 1936 and Lt-Colonel in November 1939. In 1941 he became a T/Colonel. Although details of his military career remain with the Ministry of Defence and are not in the public domain it appears that he served on the staff at the War Office during WW2.

Tragically he and his wife Ruth were killed in an air crash in March 1952. They took off from Nice airport on an Air France flight in what was known as a SNCASE Languedoc aircraft intending to fly to Paris. Immediately after take-off the plane banked to the left rolled onto its back and crashed about 1 kilometre from the airport. All on board were killed the cause of the disaster later being put down to the co-pilots aileron controls jamming as the result of a design fault.

Their estate was left to their two sons, Anthony a solicitor and Nigel still a student at Cambridge (National Probate Calendar 1858-1966). They were well provided for.

Sources
Epsom College Register 1855-1954
EC Manuscript Register 1885 – 1933
GRO
Yellow Book
Medal Roll Index
Army Lists
Ancestry
Wikipedia 1952 Air France Languedoc crash.

Arthur Walford Taylor (born 1898). M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1911-1915] was the son of Dr H. E, Taylor, of Norwich. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Norwich. During the First World War he served as a Surgeon in the R.N.V.R. (1916-1918), and during the Second World War as a Major in the R.A.M.C. (1939-1945).

Taylor, Clement Bramley

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
House: HMM?
Rank
Decorations:

Taylor, Harold George

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1909
House: HMM?
Rank
Decorations:

Harold George Kirwan-Taylor M.A., F.R.C.S.
1895 – 1981

Harold George Taylor (later Kirwan-Taylor) (HGK-T) was the second son of Alfred George Taylor and his wife Mary Kirwan Ward. They had six sons, as well as three daughters, all of the boys going to Epsom College and moving on to lead distinguished lives which are described briefly in the short biography of their eldest son Alfred Jesse, Lord Grantchester. Alfred Jesse and Harold both served in the Great War. Alfred George Taylor, their father, was a company director and a very successful ‘dealer in house property’ as described in the Census of 1911. During the course of his life he amassed a considerable fortune from which it is clear his large family benefitted and built on as directors of the family company.

HGK-T was born on 14 April 1895 at Sutton in Surrey (GRO Epsom 2a 10) and went to EC in January 1909 entering Wilson House as a day boy in the Upper IV form. His father was then living at ‘Stowford’, Brighton Rd., Sutton and this address seems to have been the family home for many years. He finished the 1910 year 9th of 27 boys in the Middle 1V proceeding through forms in the upper third of his group ending 13th of 22 in the Lower V in 1913. He was Captain of cricket, played in the hockey XI and became a prefect, leaving the College in 1913 to go up to Trinity College Cambridge to read medicine. From Cambridge he went on to his clinical studies at St George’s Hospital, London, qualifying MRCS, LRCP with the Conjoint Board in 1917 and MB, BCh (Cantab) in 1920. In 1924 he was elected FRCS (England) (Times obit).

Whilst at Cambridge during the war years he served as a surgeon probationer in the RNVR an unusual job description no doubt drawn up to make use of the clinical knowledge acquired by senior medical students during a time when doctors were in short supply. As soon as he qualified as a doctor in 1917 he joined the Royal Navy as a T/Surgeon Lieutenant (LG Navy List Oct 1917 p 173). Details of his short career in the Royal Navy are limited but he is known to have served in the Mediterranean and the North Sea sectors (St. George’s archive).
HGK-T was a wealthy young man and in 1919 he purchased a number of freehold properties in Shoreditch these being 4 houses in St John Rd., 21 in Buckland St., and 1 in Nil St. as recorded by the Land Registry (LG May 1919 Issue 31365 p 6699). At the time he was described as a surgeon in the Royal Navy and gave his family address as Stowford in Sutton. In April 1926 at Margaret St., London he married Elizabeth Mary Neild and they had a son, to be educated at Eton, and three daughters. The marriage was dissolved in 1946.

His surgical career flourished and in due course he was appointed Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist to St George’s Hospital and the General Lying-in-Hospital, a hospital situated very close to St Thomas’s Hospital in Lambeth. He held a number of other surgical appointments both as a surgeon and as an examiner for the University of Cambridge, the Society of Apothecaries, the Conjoint Board and the Central Midwives Board.

In the 1930’s he purchased Hammerwood Park, a Grade 1 listed Georgian house near East Grinstead in Sussex. The Taylor family lived here until the war when the house was requisitioned by the army. Hammerwood Park is one of only two buildings in England designed by the architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe who also designed the White House and Capitol Building in Washington DC. It stands in an idyllic setting in the Sussex countryside and must have been a delightful place for the Taylor family to live before the war when his young family was growing up allowing HGK-T to pursue his interest in all things outdoors. After WW2 he sold Hammerwood Park and it gradually fell into a state of near dereliction until purchased by its present owner in 1982, David Pinnegar a physicist interested in conservation who has worked wonders in restoring it to its former glory. A note from his website describes the time when HGK-T owned it:

““In the 1930s, the TAYLOR family purchased and they were the owners when the Second World War broke out. As with all large houses, Hammerwood Park was requisitioned by the Army. It became home to 200 soldiers, including Denis Compton, the cricketer. They left their mark on the house as we have found army scarves, boots and Canadian cigarette packets under the floorboards. Tanks were hidden in the woods and later, aircraft: the R.A.F. used the house for S.O.E. operations to France flying Lysanders from a temporary runway to the north of the Park.”

The house is now open to the public from June to September and is used for filming and a number of other cultural activities.

When the war came HGK-T worked initially in the Emergency Medical Service but in 1940 he joined the RAMC (LG 07.05.1940 p 2704) as a T/Lt. Col and gave distinguished service in the Middle East Force 1940-43 being mentioned in despatches (LG Issue 36065 June 1943 p 2861). During 1943-45 he served in N Africa, Sicily and Italy retiring with the rank of honorary colonel, Army Medical Service. In 1941 he had changed his name by Deed Poll from Taylor to Kirwan-Taylor (LG Dec 1941 p 7283). He gave his address at that time as Hammerwood Park.

After the war he returned to live in London first in St Marylebone and then in Chelsea. He stood as a prospective Conservative candidate for East Woolwich and the Royal Borough of Kingston and was a Freeman of the City of London as was his brother Alfred, Lord Grantchester. He contributed a number of papers to scientific journals during his surgical career. Following his retirement from hospital work in 1960 he farmed in Kent at Denne, Mersham, Nr Ashford where he bred pedigree Guernsey cattle and Wessex Saddle Back pigs. His had many outdoor interests among them riding and golf and he was a very good fisherman and shot (OE News 1982). He died at Ashford on 2 December 1981.

Oil on canvas by Elliot Blake from the collection at

St. George’s Hospital, London.

Sources:

Ancestry
GRO
EC Yellow Books
EC Register 1855 – 1954
The Times Obituary 5 Dec 1981
OE News 1982
London Gazette (LG) Hammerwood Park www.hammerwood.mistral.co.uk
WhoWas Who.
St George’s Hospital Archive, courtesy of the Archivist, Dr Hugh Thomas.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Taylor, James Longmore

**Entered Epsom College:** 1903

**Regiment:** T/2nd Lt. Lond. Regt. and Tank Corps

**Birth Year:**

**House:**

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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Taylor, John Stopford

**Entered Epsom College:** 1895

**Regiment:** T/Maj the King's (Liverpool) Regt. 1915-18

**Birth Year:**

**House:**

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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Taylor, Jonathan Robert Stopford

**Entered Epsom College:** 1900

**Regiment:** Commissioned Gunner, R.N.

**Birth Year:**

**House:**

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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Taylor, Leonard Herbert

**Entered Epsom College:** 1897

**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

**Birth Year:**

**House:**

**Rank:**

**Decorations:**

**Researcher:**

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Taylor, James Longmore, s. of dr. J. L. Taylor of Ilford, b. 1892, L.S. and F., l. 1908, municipal clerk, T/2nd Lt. Lond. Regt. and Tank Corps; 11 Colombo Road, Ilford

Taylor, John Stopford, s. of dr. G. G. S. Taylor of Liverpool, b. 1879, P., 181897, engaged in the cotton business, T/Maj. The King's (L'pool) Regt. 1915-18, brother of R. S. T. (1897), d. 1931

Taylor, Jonathan Robert Stopford, s. of R. F. S. Taylor, surgeon, of Radford, Notts, b. 1888, P., 1. 1901, H.M.S. Britannia, Commissioned Gunner R.N., retired 1938

Taylor, Leonard Herbert
Taylor, Richard Stopford

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1897

Regiment: T/Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Rank: D.S.O.

Decorations:

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

**Lt. Colonel Richard Stopford-Taylor D.S.O., R.A.M.C.**

**M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.**

1884 – 1964

Richard Stopford-Taylor (RST) was born on 7th March 1884 the son of Dr George Grayson Stopford-Taylor M.D. (1849-1918) and his wife Ann Alice Baldwin (1858-1911). Dr George was an eminent dermatologist practising in Liverpool where he was Senior Honorary Physician to the Liverpool Skin Hospital 2. The family lived at 26 Rodney St., in Liverpool, sometimes referred to as the “Harley Street” of Liverpool and (RST) had two brothers, John (1879-1931) who also went to Epsom College and Herbert (1892-1984) who did not. There was also a sister Victoria Elsie (1888-1973).

His father, entered him at Epsom in January 1897 and he was placed in Propert House1. He started in the upper 1Vth form but did not appear in the form placing in the summer of 1897. However this may have been the result of administrative failure on the part of the school authorities as the printed records that year are heavily annotated in pencil with the insertion of many missing names. He moved up to the Middle 1Vth form but again his name is missing in the year order and at Christmas 1898 he left when he was only 14. However this did not stop him in later life, according to his obituary in the BMJ, from becoming an assiduous supporter of the College.7 His older brother John Stopford -T. (1879-1931) was likewise at the College for just two years from 1895-97 and later served as a Major in the King’s Liverpool Regt. in WW1 (LG). The College Register for 1855-1924 records that RST went on to Liverpool University in 1903 where he qualified in medicine M.B., Ch. B. (Liv) in 1907. He played rugger for the University of Liverpool as a student and was a keen badminton player 7. In 1910 he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (F.R.C.S.E.) 3.

After qualifying he worked in Liverpool for a while until the war intervened. From his record at The National Archive (TNA) 4 it is known that he joined the Territorial Force in 1908 and served with the 87th Field Ambulance RAMC. This unit later became known as the 1/1 West Lancashire Field Ambulance (TF) and in the Great War was part of the 29th Division which saw action in Gallipoli, France and Flanders. On the 16th November 1915 he received a copy of a letter which had been sent to his unit 4 in Liverpool. He was then living at Rodney St. and it was addressed to Capt. RS Taylor of the West Lancashire Field Ambulance. The letter stated “As the majority of Territorial Force medical units with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force are short of officers, we have warned the officer to hold himself in readiness to embark at an early date”. Six days later, on 22 November, he embarked at Devonport for Gallipoli and was told “You will do duty on board”. By the time Capt. Taylor, now a T/Major, re-joined his unit on 7 December 1915 they were at Mudros, a port on Lemnos Island, the staging post between Egypt and the Gallipoli peninsula where the 87th Field Ambulance, under the command of Lt. Col. C H Lyndsay RAMC, was running a convalescent camp. By the end of December 1915 not long before the final evacuation from Gallipoli there were 1328 cases in the tented camp and many were very ill. Colonel Lyndsay described in the war diary “Many cases are very ill with frostbite and helpless. Very few are suffering from wounds. Jaundice, rheumatism & dysentery all play their part in invaliding them. All men are accommodated in EP tents on mattresses and each man in addition is issued with 2 blankets and a GS (groundsheet)”. A few days later he added; “Gale last night blew down 5 marquees” and mercifully shortly after this the camp began to close down.
On 1 January 1916 the last few patients were discharged to the 15th Stationary Hospital and on the 7th January, 7 officers and 170 ORs of the 87th Fd Ambulance embarked on HMT Varsova for Alexandria arriving there on the 10th. They were billeted in Suez Camp and for a while RST took temporary command when Col Lyndsay was sent to Div. HQ as ADMS.

The Colonel returned to resume command at the beginning of March and a week later the unit moved to Port Said where they boarded a hospital ship which took them to Marseilles arriving there on 20 March 1916. They entrained for Paris and then moved for a short while to the Abbeville area before moving on to the front line at the end of April at Louvencourt south east of Doullens on the road to Albert. They set up their HQ and a Main Casualty Clearing station (MCS). Apart from daily casualties which they received in considerable numbers, “rheumatism and scabies” were the chief complaints noted by Colonel Lyndsay at that time.

On the 29 May 1916 the diary records Major Taylor went on 12 days leave. Almost certainly it was at this time he married his wife, Marion Gertrude Buckley (1883-1982), in West Derby (GRO. 2nd qtr. 1916 8b 385). He returned to the trenches from England on 12 June in time to prepare for the Somme offensive. The tragedy that was “The Somme” is too well known to cover in detail in this short biography. However to read the 12 pages of hand written notes by Lt Col. Lyndsay in the war diary which he set about writing at around 11pm each night on the first 3 days of the battle perhaps adds a note of realism which any other attempt struggles to achieve 6. To be able to portray the nightmare he and his men went through is impossible here but a few extracts from the diary can try to inform the reader.

The night before the battle started the Colonel wrote in the diary “Work on MDS now complete is now fully equipped and ready for use 370 beds (illegible) with an operating hut. Road to MDS has been improved by liberal applications of brushwood so that ambulance wagons can again come right into the dressing station”. The MDS was now ready to receive casualties from the Advanced Dressing Stations (ADS’s) nearer the front, to carry out further resuscitation and stabilisation of the casualty before sending them back down the line to V111 Corps Clearing station at Acheux.

The 87th Fd Ambulance were in one of the most heavily exposed areas of the battle, on Hawthorn Ridge in front of Beaumont Hamel. At 7.20am on the orders of the Corps Commander, Lt. General Hunter-Weston a veteran of Gallipoli, the Hawthorn Ridge mine was exploded 10 minutes before the men went over the top and at the same time the pre-attack barrage was lifted from the German front line. This error of judgement gave the enemy plenty of time to organise their defences against the advancing British soldiers who moved forward to be slaughtered at 7.30am.

On the 1st July 1916 at 6am Lt. Colonel Lyndsay left his HQ and the MDS at Louvencourt, in the command of Major Taylor to visit the ADS’s near the front line and to assemble horse and motor transports to make sure they were in position for the coming battle scheduled to start at 7.30am. At 7am he was at the ADS at Mailly which carried out treatment for walking wounded and those who were being brought back by stretcher bearers from the front Regimental Aid Posts (RAP’s) in the trenches and from “no man’s land”, before organising their move to the MDS. He then went on to the ADS’s at Auchonvillers and Thorlus. At the former he had established a bearer post sub-division known as Red Barn to act as a relay post for stretcher bearers bringing wounded direct from the front.

“The first batch of walking cases arrived at Red Barn at 8.15am from the 2nd Royal Fusiliers, 1st Dublin Fusiliers, (and) 16 Middlesex in the above order. “ It soon became very clear that heavy casualties were to be expected from Beaumont Hamel and from then on all hell seems to have broken loose. The Colonel visited the RAP’s of the regiments in the line and his own ADS’s constantly throughout the 3 days and on the 2nd July he noted “my bearers are now becoming exhausted”. Promised help had not arrived and he sent transport right up to the front line to pick up casualties and save his bearers from carrying them back to the bearer relay posts and ADS’s. He “estimated that from 1.15am to 3.30pm (2 July) I was able to remove in this manner 682 stretcher & sitting cases alone”.

He noted on the third day “I was not able to get down to the MDS (at Lowencourt) until 3rd inst. but the reports from Major Taylor indicated that everything was proceeding smoothly and that at no time did the numbers remaining approach 100 so excellent was the service of the 20th MAC (Motor Ambulance Column)”. He had 4 motor ambulances at his disposal as well as the horse drawn wagons. By the end of the 3rd day his men had been working without a break with virtually no food and that evening he withdrew his stretcher bearers to Auchonvillers for some rest and sleep.

This one relatively small medical unit recorded on the first day of the Somme “Total casualties all ranks admitted from 8.15am on 1st inst. until 12 noon - 2111”. Towards the end of his record for these first 3 days of the battle the RAMC Colonel wrote “My impression of the large numbers of cases which passed through the hut (meaning the MDS operating unit at Lowencourt under the command of RST) during the first 3 days of the battle enables me to say that quite 45% of the wounded should with proper care and
attention be likely to return to the fighting in from 3-5 weeks”. Whether this optimistic figure was achieved is not known and only later would it become clear that tens of thousands lay dead in the mud of the battlefield and would never return.

By the 4 June things were starting to settle down. On the 6th “‘C’ Section under command of Major Taylor take over ADS at Mailly (Hotel de Ville) from ‘B’ Section today”. A week or so later the Colonel recorded “Since our arrival in the country this unit has had through its hands 180 officers and 5610 OR’s!” On the 15th July he noted “had a visit from DMS Reserve Army today. Asked me to recommend an officer to command aFd Amb. Gave him Major Taylor’s name”.

Soon they were on the move to Poperinghe, west of Ypres where they were ordered to use college buildings as an MDS with an ADS on the Canal Bank and at St Jean. They had to assist nearby units when gas attacks took place and scabies was a major problem amongst the troops. In August “‘C’ Section took over "the Scabies Camp at L’Elbe Farm & continue to run it as such under i/c Major Taylor”. However soon after this they were ordered to hand over L’Elbe Farm to 88 Fd Amb and by 1 September 1916 they left Poperinghe for the Asylum at Ypres to set up their MDS there. The Colonel took some leave and Major Taylor took command again in his absence.

In October they moved south to France at Buire, then Fricourt, 3 miles east of Albert and then Allery “in the field”. The weather was atrocious with rain constantly and there are numerous references to ‘every one soaked to the skin’ as they marched from place to place along the line. They ended up at Soues by mid-December where they were billeted in Bichcourt Chateau which must have been a welcome change from tents. Particular good fortune arose for one officer just before Christmas when the diary records “Major Taylor of the unit left on 10 days leave for England”. It must have required considerable will power for him to return to the front on 5 January 1917 as he did.

They battled on through January and February through cold, snow and mud moving from Soues to Marcourt and then Breislie and on to Guillemont all the time being bombed, shelled and gassed at intervals. Two officers left without authority and reports had to be sent up the line by Colonel Lyndsay. No record appears as to what happened to them at a time when the penalty for desertion was to be shot at dawn. Major Taylor took charge of an ADS at Ginchy in February and then the transport camp at Carnoy near Fricourt. By March they were back at Soues.

In April and May the unit took part in the Battle of Arras which was described in two parts in the war diary. They set up HQ at Hardinval initially before the first part, the attack on Vimy Ridge. They then moved around as they followed the action before taking part in the second phase, the Capture of the Siegfried Line. They were in Arras in May where it was noted “Major Taylor RAMC has shown much ability and displayed great ingenuity in getting storm bath filled up for men and promoting (illegible) & great cleanliness of billets & personnel”.

On 5 June 1917 it was announced in the unit “Major RS Taylor RAMC awarded the Distinguished Service Order in King’s Birthday List” (LG 30111 P5474). By now they were moving north again towards Ypres and were involved in the Battle of Messines but on the 27 June RST was able to take some leave to England returning to Flanders on the 8 July. Not long after his return the Colonel took a similar spell of leave and again RST took command.

Lt Colonel Lyndsay returned on the 21 July for what was to be the last few weeks of his command of the unit and on the 25 August 1917 he wrote in the War Diary “Handed over command of 87th Fd Ambulance to Major RS Taylor RAMC (1st West Lancashire Fd Ambulance) on my appointment as ADMS 59th Division”. A few days later RST’s appointment was confirmed and he was promoted to Lt. Colonel. They were by now involved in the Paschendaele operations which took place between July and December 1917 fighting alongside Canadians of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and 1st Dublin Fusiliers. In September they were at Boesinghe and then took part in the battle of Langemarck a village northeast of Ypres before entraining again and moving south to Mondicourt near Doullens. On 20 December RST left the front for a month’s leave in England.

He returned from leave and took command again on 21 January 1918 by which time his men had been moved back to the Ypres area at Brandhoek which lies east of Ypres near Poperinghe. He fought on gamely but by now the stress of 2 years constant action in the front line, much of the time in atrocious conditions, had taken its toll. On 1 March 1918 the war diary records “Lt. Col. RS Taylor DSO evacuated to No. 3 Canadian CCS --”. The Canadian Casualty Clearing Station was also at Brandhoek and the Field Ambulance was situated nearby. He had been evacuated from the front with trench fever, a bacterial infection transmitted by lice which were endemic in the trenches and from which nearly everyone suffered, and 3 weeks later it was noted in the diary that he had been sent to England 6. He was admitted to 2nd Western General Hospital in Manchester on 13th March and after treatment there was recommended by a medical board for 6 weeks sick leave and rest. It was recorded on the report that his total service was 10
years of which war service had been 7 months at home and 3 years abroad. He vacated his command of 87 Field Ambulance in March but by May he was judged fit again for service and in June was placed in command of 325th Field Ambulance with the rank of A/Lt Colonel. However it seems he became unfit for service again, from June until September, frequent relapses being a common feature of trench fever in the recovery phase. On 27 August 1918 a medical board noted his complaints of joint pain in his knees and shoulders accompanied by weight loss the consequence of “infection and strain of active service in Gallipoli and France” and his military service was over. He was demobilised on 12 April 1919 but seems to have agreed to remain with the Territorials and in September 1920 was transferred to the TF reserves as a Lt. Colonel. However he does not appear to have taken up this appointment and his commission in the TF was finally terminated in September 19214. In addition to his DSO he received the 1915 Star, the BWM and Victory medal with emblems indicating that he had been mentioned in despatches.8 He returned to his civilian practice in Liverpool when he left the army, initially living in the family home and then in 1923 he moved to 84 Rodney Street where he and his wife lived until he retired in 1955.9 He became a distinguished member of the Liverpool medical fraternity being appointed dermatologist to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary and Liverpool Children’s Hospital and lecturer in tropical skin diseases at the University.9 He was president of the British Association of Dermatology in 1943 and of the Liverpool Medical Institution in the following year.7 He and his wife did much to support the social life of the medical students and he attended regularly the reunions of his old war comrades. He was proud of Liverpool and took great interest in the affairs of the city (BMJ).

Richard Stopford-Taylor died in hospital on 4 December 1964 aged 80. His wife died in St Joseph’s Hospice, Liverpool on the 4 September 1982 a few days before her 99th birthday. They left no children but there is a record in the family tree of an unnamed child born about 1917, the year after they were married, who clearly did not survive.9

Sources:
1 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
2 Medical Directory 1845-1942. Welcome Museum.
3 UK Medical Registers 1859-1959
4 TNA Kew: WO 374/67444 Service record.
5 TNA: WO 95 4309 War Diary 87th Field Ambulance; Gallipoli & Egypt
6 TNA: WO 95/2296/1 War Diary 87th Field Ambulance; France & Belgium
8 Medal Index card
9 Ancestry
LG: London Gazette

Charles S Gallannaugh February 2017

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Taylor, Sir Alfred Jesse Suenson, Lord Grantchester

Decoration: O.B.E.

Birth Year: 1884

Entered Epsom College: 1907

Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.S.C. and Staff 1914-18, desp (2)

Rank

House: HMM? □

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Sir Alfred Jesse Suenson—Taylor OBE, 1st Baron Grantchester 1893 - 1976

Alfred Jesse Taylor (later Suenson-Taylor) was the first born of six sons and three daughters of Alfred George Taylor and his wife Mary Kirwan Ward. Of all the stars in the Epsom firmament the family of Alfred George must shine amongst the brightest. All the boys went to Epsom College and in two cases their sons followed in the family tradition.
Alfred George Taylor was a company director and a very successful ‘dealer in house property’ as described in the Census of 1911. During the course of his life he amassed a considerable fortune. The subject of this short biography, Alfred Jesse, and his next brother in succession, Harold George described in a separate biography, are of particular interest here as they both served in WW1. The remaining four brothers all led distinguished lives; Ernest Edward who sent his son to EC in 1942 became a company director and farmer; Gordon Taylor (afterwards Kirwan–Taylor) became a physician and Lt Colonel in the RAMC in WW2 sending his son to EC in 1948; William John (later Kirwan-Taylor OBE) played rugger for England and became a company director and a member of the Council of EC; and finally Charles Stuart (later Sir Charles Taylor DL), a company director, became MP for Eastbourne serving as a major in the TA during WW2. Alfred George died in 1959 age 86 (GRO 5g p225) his wife Mary having pre-deceased him in 1951. He left an estate of £50,748 (£1 million in 2013) in the hands of his two eldest sons (Nat. Probate Reg).

Alfred Jesse Taylor (AJT) was born at Primrose, Brunswick Road, Sutton, Surrey on 14 August 1893 (GRO 1893 2a p10). In 1907 his father sent him to EC and he entered the Lower School, as a home boarder in the Upper 1V form (Yellow Book). He was clearly a very bright scholar. By 1909 in the Lower Vth he came 6th of 18 and in 1910 in A1 Classics he was 2nd of 17. He won the Martin Prize for Mathematics in 1910, 1911 and 1912. He also won the Modern History and Brande Essay Prizes in 1911 the same year that he gained a Forest Exhibition to King’s College Cambridge. In 1912 he was 2nd of six boys, all prefects, in the Classics Upper Sixth a form overseen by the Headmaster. He left for Cambridge that year. Unlike his brothers, several of whom became captains of rugger or cricket or both, he does not seem to have shone on the sports field although he was in the hockey eleven.

His time at Cambridge ended with the onset of war although in spite of the turmoil of that time he managed to graduate with a Bachelor of Art degree in 1915. In November 1914 he had asked his tutor at Cambridge to write to the War Office asking them to consider him for a commission in the Army Service Corps (ASC). A reply came back stating that there were between 1200 and 1400 names already on the waiting list and “the young man would need to show that he had special qualifications” if he were to be accepted. He was invited to attend the War Office which he did immediately and clearly he was found to have such qualifications as he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the ASC on 28 Dec 1914 (LG 7 Jan 1915 p 259) and was posted to Aldershot for training. In late February 1915 he joined the 13th Divisional Train ASC (Western Division) at Fleet for further training, The ASC eventually became the RASC in late 1918.

Each Division of the Army had a Divisional Train which amongst its many tasks was responsible for organising the horse drawn transport which moved the Division’s stores and supplies to all the fighting units. Although the British Army was becoming increasingly mechanised, horse drawn transport was still the principal means whereby supplies were moved. The ASC Train moved with the Division and consisted of 26 officers and 402 other ranks (The Long Long Trail). There were 4 Horsed Transport Companies in each Division, one for each of the 3 infantry brigades, in the case of the 13th (Western Division) commanded by Major General FC Shaw, the 38th, 39th and 40th Brigades and one for Divisional HQ.

AJT received rapid promotion becoming a Captain in April 1915 (LG 26 June 1915). On 14 June 1915 he embarked at Avonmouth near Bristol with the 13th Division, Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, for Gallipoli via Alexandria. He arrived at Mudros on the island of Lemnos, situated approximately 25 miles from Gallipoli, on the 17 July 1915. Lemnos was the main assembly point and training area for troops arriving in the sector.

In August 1915 further attempts to advance in Gallipoli after a series of failures earlier in the campaign saw the addition of a new Army Corps to the troops already under the overall command of General Sir Ian Hamilton. This new IX Corps was to be commanded by Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Stopford whose previous experience was limited to mainly ceremonial duties. He would be replaced nine days after the start of the offensive by General Sir Julian Byng who had been moved from the Western Front. IX Corps was comprised of three ‘New Army’ divisions which were drawn from men who had volunteered for military service at the outbreak in 1914. The 13th (Western) Division was one of these. Hamilton at first seems to have had some difficulty in deciding what to do with this ‘New Army’ Corps which had been sent to him but in due course between 3-5 August the 13th Division landed at Anzac Cove.

As an officer in the ASC Divisional Train AJT with his colleagues would have been responsible for logistical support for the invasion force arranging for food, ammunition and all the general equipment needed by the fighting troops to be delivered and brought ashore, a very considerable task in the hostile environment of Gallipoli. In his 3rd report describing the battles which took place in August 1915 General Hamilton gave a good description of the difficulties which faced the ASC of the 13th Division as they landed at Anzac Cove:

“Having settled upon the manner and time of the diversions, orders had to be issued for the main operation. And here I must pause a moment to draw your Lordship’s attention to the extraordinary complexity of the staff work caused by the unique distribution of my forces. Within the narrow confines of the positions I held on the peninsula it was impossible to concentrate even as much as one third of the fresh troops about to be launched to the attack. Nor could Mudros and Imbros combined absorb the whole of the remainder. The strategic concentration which precedes a normal battle had in my case to be a very wide dispersion. Thus of the forces destined for my offensive, on the day before the battle, part were at Anzac, part at Imbros, part at Mudros, and part at Mitylene. These last three detachments were separated respectively by 14, 60 and 120 miles of sea from the arena into which they were simultaneously to appear. To ensure the punctual arrival of all these masses of inexperienced troops at the right moment and spot, together with their material, munitions, stores, supplies, water, animals and vehicles, was a prodigious undertaking demanding not only competence, but self-confidence; and I will say for my General
Staff that I believe the clearness and completeness of their orders for this concentration and landing will hereafter be studied as models in military academies. The need for economy in sea transport, the awkwardness and restriction of open beaches, the impossibility of landing guns, animals or vehicles rapidly—all these made it essential to create a special, separate organisation for every single unit taking part in the adventure. A pack mule corps to supply 80,000 men had also to be organised for that specific purpose until such time as other transport could be landed. As to water, that element of itself was responsible for a whole chapter of preparations. An enormous quantity had to be collected secretly, and as secretly stowed away at Anzac, where a high-level reservoir had to be built, having a holding capacity of 30,000 gallons, and fitted out with a regular system of pipes and distribution tanks. A stationary engine was brought over from Egypt to fill that reservoir. Petroleum tins, with a carrying capacity of 80,000 gallons, were got together, and fixed up with handles, &c., but the collision of the "Moorgate" with another vessel delayed the arrival of large numbers of these just as a breakdown in the stationary engine upset for a while the well-laid plan of the high-level reservoir. But Anzac was ever resourceful in face of misadventures, and when the inevitable accidents arose it was not with folded hands that they were met.” (LG 3rd Report of General Hamilton 6 Jan 1916).

Almost immediately after landing between the 6-10 August the 13th Division took part in the battle to take Sari Bair, a range of hills separating the Anzac sector from Suvla Bay to the north, fighting alongside the main force of Australian and New Zealand troops in what was to be one of the bloodiest actions of the whole campaign, ultimately ending in failure. The 13th Division took a heavy toll as described by its Commander in Chief:

"-------- The 13th Division of the New Army, under Major-General Shaw, had alone lost 6,000 out of a grand total of 10,500. Baldwin was gone and all his staff. Ten commanding officers out of thirteen had disappeared from the fighting effects. The Warwicks and the Worcesters had lost literally every single officer. The old German notion that no unit would stand a loss of more than 25 per cent, had been completely falsified. The 13th Division and the 29th Brigade of the 10th (Irish) Division had lost more than twice that proportion, and, in spirit, were game for as much more fighting as might be required.——". At the end of his report General Hamilton paid tribute to the support troops: “The services rendered by Major-General (temporary Lieutenant-General) E. A. Altham, C.B., C.M.G., Inspector-General of Communications, and all the Departments and Services of the Lines of Communication assured us a life-giving flow of drafts, munitions and supplies. The work was carried out under unprecedented conditions, and is deserving, I submit, of handsome recognition”.

Towards the end of August from 21-28 the battle for Hill 60 on the margin of the Anzac and Suvla sectors would rage with the Anzacs eventually taking the hill but at a cost of 6,500 casualties. The strategic gains from these battles were limited indeed and by the end of August the exhausted soldiers settled down for the coming winter. The 13th Division was moved from Anzac to join the large force at Suvla Bay where it remained until it was evacuated in December.

There had already been a major row between the War office and senior officers both on the Western Front and in the Dardanelles over the matter of a shortage of ammunition, particularly shells. The severe shortage of drinking water on the Gallipoli peninsula was a constant problem and in the heat of summer brought great hardship to the troops and no doubt major problems for AJT and his fellow officers who had to do their best to provide an adequate water supply.

The presence of 50,000 men on the shore confined to a relatively small area in the summer heat with poor sanitation and inadequate and often contaminated water supplies inevitably led to severe outbreaks of disease. Dysentery and enteric fever were endemic and it has been said that at times as many as 1000 men were evacuated in a single day by open barges to hospital ships lying off shore. Plagues of flies feeding on the bloated corpses of the dead lying unburied in no man’s land added to the spread of disease with flies landing on the men’s food and on the open wounds of the injured. Inevitably even the fittest succumbed and on 8th September 1915 AJT was admitted to a hospital ship from Gallipoli with diarrhoea and jaundice. On the 12th he was moved to Malta and on the 18th invalided home to England. He remained on sick leave from 12th October 1915 until he returned to light duties on 13th December at the ASC depot at Aldershot (WO 339/16321). During the course of his illness he lost 2 stone in weight and he was not fully fit for general duties again until 18 March 1916.

On 18th August 1916 he embarked for France landing at Le Havre as part of the Expeditionary Force, Le Havre being the ASC Base HT (Horse Transport) Depot. Undoubtedly his excellent organisational skills had been recognised and he was to undertake duties with 10 Company with the No. 1 regular army depot for horse transport in France. In August 1917 he became Deputy Assistant Director, Stores & Transport at GHQ and was graded as Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General with the rank of T/Major from 25th March 1918. At the end of the war he returned home and was demobilised on the 2nd July 1919 giving his address for correspondence as Stowford, Sutton, Surrey his family home. He relinquished his commission on demobilisation but in a letter from the War Office dated 8th October 1920 he was informed that he had been granted the honorary rank of major (LG 12 Oct 1920).

He received significant recognition for distinguished service during his wartime career. He was Mentioned in Despatches twice (LG 29 May 1917 and 5 July 1919). On 3rd June 1919 he was appointed O.B.E.. He also became an Officer of the Black Star (LG 16 Mar 1920 p 816 - Officier Ordre de L’Etoile Noire) - a French order of chivalry established in 1889 and later superseded by the Ordre National du Merite in 1963 (Wikepedia). He was awarded the 1914-15 Star and the Victory Medal. No medal was ever struck for those who participated in the Gallipoli campaign, surely a failure of establishment recognition comparable only with that afforded to men of the North Sea convoys and Bomber Command, only recently rectified.

A final tribute to his war service was recorded in a confidential report at the time of demobilisation by the Civil Service Commissioners dated 24 June 1919. In the somewhat restrained language of a senior civil servant characteristic of the time the
writer stated; “He is a good administrator and his service has been satisfactory. A very energetic intelligent officer with good initiative and powers of organisation. Speaks French well”.

After the war AJT practised as a Barrister at Law being called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1920. On the 26 May 1920 he changed his name by Deed Poll to Suenson-Taylor (LG 18 June p 6742). In April that year at St George’s, Hanover Square, he had married Mara Henrietta Suenson, known as Mamie, daughter of the late Albert Suenson of Copenhagen. They later had two children, Kenneth Bent born in 1921 and Monica Esme born in 1926. In March 1925 he applied to be enrolled as a Freeman of the City of London giving his address as 50 Well Walk, Hampstead where he was practising as a barrister.

Although by training a lawyer he was essentially a financier associated with the London and Manchester Assurance Company for 40 years serving as its chairman from 1953 until 1961. In his earlier years he became interested in politics standing for Parliament on 4 occasions although without success. However he remained a devoted Liberal becoming President of the London Liberal Party and joint honorary treasurer of the Liberal Party organisation. His strength lay in his organisational talent rather than on the political platform (The Times obit.). He held numerous directorships and served on the boards of many international companies. He was invested as a Knight Bachelor in 1935 and elevated to the Peerage in the Coronation Honours List of 1953 taking the title of Baron Grantchester of Knightsbridge saying that the happiest times of his life had been spent in Cambridge, where his tutor had lived overlooking Grantchester meadows, and later in his London home in Princes Gate. His wife predeceased him in March 1976 and he died on 2 July 1976 age 82 (GRO St Marylebone vol. 14 p1736). He was succeeded by his son the Hon Kenneth Suenson-Taylor QC who died in 1995.

Sources:
EC Yellow Book
Ancestry
GRO
EC Register 1855-1954 & Manuscript Register.
London Gazette (LG)
LG: General Sir Ian Hamilton 3rd Report 1916
TNA WO 339/16321
WW1 Medal Card WO 372/19/156891
The Times – Obituary 6 July 1976
Wikipedia
The Long, Long Trail.
For further reading on Gallipoli see Gallipoli 1915 by Peter Doyle. The History Press; 2011.

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Alfred Suenson-Taylor, 1st Baron Grantchester.
Sir Charles Taylor (W 1924) and wife. He was a brother of Lord Grantchester & Harold Kirwan-Taylor

'TSussex Life' June 1965. Vol 1No 3.

Teining, Edward Wing

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Thomas, Benjamin

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Thomas, Cyril Llewellyn Seymour

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Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Elizabeth Manterfield

THOMAS Cyril Llewellyn Seymour 2nd Lt., 42nd Sqn RFC att. 3rd Border Regiment
Died: 6 Sept 1916
Cyril was born in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) on 8 Jan 1897, the second son of Llewellyn Edward Thomas and his wife Kate Blanche nee Woods. His parents had married on 29 June 1897 at the parish church in Epsom, Surrey (GRO Ref June 1897 Epsom 2a 27). He also had a sister, Reta. Cyril's father was a first class cricketer and in 1893 had been a wicket keeper for Middlesex. He became a tea planter on the Poyston Estate, Bickoya, Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and continued to play cricket in Ceylon. Cyril's father registered him to enter Epsom College's Lower School Fayrer House on 1 May 1908 from where he progressed to the Upper School in Granville House. He was recorded at the College in the 1911 census with the information that he was a resident of Ceylon.

Cyril had an undistinguished academic career at Epsom College, frequently ending up in the bottom 10% of his year. His best performances were in 1911 and 1912 when he came just halfway out of 24 boys in his year. He was more interested in sport and played in the College rugby XV and hockey XI teams. He was also in the College junior swimming team. He was made a sub–prefect. In April 1915 he left to join the army.

He gave his father as next of kin c/o F J Wright, The Hyde, Ifield, Crawley. He served 186 days from 11 August 1915 until 19 July 1916 as 2nd Lt in the Border Regiment and from 20 July 1916 until his death a few weeks later he was a Flying Officer in 42 Sqn of the Royal Flying Corps. 42 Sqn had been formed in April 1916 and acted mainly as a corps reconnaissance unit. On 8 August 1916 he was posted to the Expeditionary Force with 42 Sqn. The casualty report for Cyril states that he was on a bombing raid near Quesnoy. The Sqn deployed to St Omer on 8 August 1916, moved to Bailleul on 15 August and finally to La Gorgue on 1 September. His father received a telegram reporting that Cyril was missing, but it said that this did not necessarily mean that he had been either wounded or killed. Then began the long wait for more news, and for nearly a year there was no record of his body being recovered.

His death was accepted as having occurred on or around 6 Sept 1916 on the evidence of a German report, the return of his effects and the lapse of time that had elapsed since he was last seen. Enquiries via the Netherlands’ Legation in Berlin indicated that he had been buried in the New Military Cemetery in Verlingham around 6 September 1916. Eventually his name appeared in an official list sent from Germany to the Red Cross in Geneva. The Bureau du Recherche Disparus forwarded a letter from a German lieutenant in a Jagdstaffel detachment (a German fighter squadron) who stated that he had been in an air battle with Lt CLS Thomas on 6 September 1916 who had been flying a Bristol biplane no 7070. In the course of the battle Lt Thomas was killed with a gun shot in the back and fell with his aeroplane east of Armentieres behind the German trenches. His body was buried with military honours in a churchyard near Verlinghem about 8 km east of Armentieres. He asked for his letter to be forwarded to the family with his purse and cigarette case which were found with him. The Bureau said it would hold on to the objects until they received a reply and could be sure the letter had been received.

He now lies in Pont-du-Hem Military Cemetery France, grave no P4 RC G2. During 1917 and 1918 graves were brought in from the battlefields and smaller cemeteries including the German cemetery at Verlingham. His parents were living at Cranham, Little Waltham, Chelmsford at the time of his death.

Sources:
Epsom College register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
TNA file WO 372/19/203295
Long no 124055/3

AIR 1/845

AIR 1/967

AIR 76/500/102

Check AIR 27/2699/68 for 42 sqn ops

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


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**Thomas, Ivor Stuart**

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Thompson, Charles Henry Burton

**Birth Year:** 1880  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1895  
**Regiment:** T/F.Lt. R.A.F.  
**House:** HMM?  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**

Thompson, Francis

**Birth Year:** 1878  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1891  
**Regiment:** T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18  
**House:** HMM?  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**

Thompson, Louis Clifford

**Birth Year:** 1877  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1891  
**Regiment:** Capt. S.A.M.C.  
**House:** HMM?  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**

Thomson, Claude de Boudry

**Birth Year:** 1889  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1901  
**Regiment:** Cpl. R.A.M.C. 1916-17  
**House:** HMM?  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**

Thomson, Frederick George

**Birth Year:** 1874  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1889  
**House:** P  
**Rank:**  
**Decorations:**
FREDERICK GEORGE THOMSON (1874-1940). M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.P.  
- President of the British Medical Association.

“He spent his holidays fishing, acquiring that mellow personality which seems to characterise the devotees of that art.”

British Medical Journal (1940)

Frederick George Thomson (1874-1940) [Epsom College 1889-1892. Doncaster Scholarship] came from a famous medical family. His brother, Herbert Campbell Thomson, F.R.C.P. (1870-1940) [Epsom College 1883-1888], was a distinguished neurologist and Dean of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, while his cousin, Sir St Clair Thomson (1859-1943) was a renowned ear, nose and throat surgeon and Professor of Laryngology at King’s College Hospital. At Epsom College, ‘F.G.’ as he was affectionately known, was Head Prefect, winner of the Propert and Watts Science Prizes, and a member of both the Rugby XV and Cricket XI. He won a Scholarship to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, before being awarded the Freer Lucas Entrance scholarship to complete his medical education at the Middlesex Hospital. At the Middlesex Hospital he had such a distinguished career, winning so many scholarships and prizes that he might have looked forward to joining the staff. However, he was not attracted to London life. He travelled to Portugal where he served as medical officer to the British Hospital at Oporto. Shortly before this he had won the gold medal for the M.D. Examination (1907).

During the First World War, Thomson served in France and Mesopotamia, and afterwards he took up the appointment of Consultant Physician at the Royal United and Royal Mineral Water Hospitals in Bath, with primary interests in cardiology and rheumatic diseases. It was during this period that he introduced the method of closed drainage in cases of empyema (a collection of pus in the pleural cavity) to his hospital with such success that no operation of rib resection, the previous treatment of choice, was recorded during the next ten years.

In 1925, Frederick Thomson was elected President of the British Medical Association, but illness prevented him from reading his presidential address, and this was read for him by his son. The following year he was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. Thomson was soon recognised as one of the leaders of the medical profession in the west of England, and he was President of the Bath, Bristol and Somerset Branch of the British Medical Association and Chairman of the Bath Division on two occasions. Other honours soon came his way. He was President of the Section of Physical Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine (1931-1932), and was appointed Consultant Physician at the British Red Cross Clinic for Rheumatism in London.

‘F.G’ Thomson was immensely popular in the Bath area. He was a good shot, and much in request in the country around. But, his chief interest in sport was fly-fishing, and for many years he used to join his father fishing in Scotland. It was said in his obituary that “his chief characteristic was a sterling common sense, and a wit if sometimes mordant, never unkind. He did not suffer fools gladly and rogues earned his contempt. The infinitely better understanding of the spa physician at the present day compared to that enjoyed even a few decades ago owes much to Thomson’s efforts and example.” In his writings he was at pains to examine old theories and explode myths resting on no assured basis, before attempting to lay down rules for treatment that had clear-cut reasons behind them.
James Albert Raymond, DSO, Lieut-Colonel 5th Bn Yorkshire Regiment:
Died: 27 May 1918

James Albert Raymond, known as Raymond to his family was born at Edgerton, Huddersfield on 18 Feb 1876 (GRO Ref: Mar 1876 Huddersfield 9a 376) the son of James Thomson and Eliza Jane nee Metcalfe. His parents had married in 1867 (GRO Ref: March 1867 Malton 9d 510). He was baptized on 23 March 1876 at Holmfirth, Honley non-conformist chapel in Huddersfield. Raymond’s family lived in Leonard Place, Regent Road, Edgerton, a quiet, residential district of Huddersfield. He had two older sisters, Florence Edith, born 1868, and Blanche born 1869, plus a younger sister Irene Beatrice, who was born in 1887.

Raymond’s father registered him to enter Epsom College’s Upper School, Forest House on 20 Jan 1890. At the time they were living at Mount Royd, Park Drive, Huddersfield. Raymond spent two years in the Mercantile form, designed to prepare boys for a mercantile career. In 1890 he came 14th out of the 16 boys but the following year he improved his position to 4th out of 18. He left at Easter 1892 and there is no evidence that he passed the college of Preceptors exam for which the boys would have been studying.

In the 1891 census the family was still living at Mount Royd. James was a 49 year old woollen manufacturer. Eliza Jane was 47. Florence aged 22, Blanche 21 and Irene 3 were living at home with their parents. The family employed a cook and a housemaid. Raymond’s mother died at Mount Royd on 28 September 1901.

Raymond became a miller and corn merchant and a director of Messrs R Metcalfe and Sons flour milling business and of the Malton Gas company.

He joined the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, the Alexandra Princess of Wales’s Own (Yorkshire Regiment), and was given a commission as Second Lieutenant on 20 March, 1901. On 13 June 1903 he was promoted to Lieutenant and then to Captain on 18 Oct 1905.

Raymond married Ethel Norah Mayson Johnson in 1905 at St Mary’s York (GRO Ref: June 1895 York 9d 88). Ethel was the only daughter of the late Edward Mayson Johnson.

In the 1911 census the couple was living in a 12 roomed house, The Uplands, Castle Howard Road, in Malton, Yorkshire. They employed a cook and a housemaid. Raymond was working as a flour merchant and corn merchant. They did not have any children.

In 1912 he was serving in the Territorial Force Reserve. On the outbreak of war he rejoined his old regiment (5 Yorkshire) from the Territorial Force Reserve as a captain under the command of Lt Col Sir Mark Sykes MP. He took the Yorkshire’s first prisoners of war at Hull in 1914 whilst in charge of interned German shipping. In April 1915 he sailed with the battalion from Southampton landing at Le Havre on 16 April. A few days afterwards he took part in the heavy fighting round St Julien.

He saw action at St Julien and Hooge during the second Ypres battle and was wounded in action close to Dickebusche on 19 December 1915. During the “Operations at the Bluff” St Eloi, south of Ypres in February of 1916 he was wounded again with a gun shot wound to his right ankle whilst serving in 4(R) Yorkshire Regiment. The skin over the centre of his scalp was scraped and he also suffered slight concussion along with superficial wounds to his eyelid and cheek.

He left his unit on 2 Mar 1916, embarked on the Jan Brynel at Boulogne on 19 Mar 1916 and arrived in Dover later that day. His ankle wound healed relatively quickly although it had to be incised to relieve a haematoma (collection of blood in the joint) and needed to be rested for some time. However, he suffered from persistent headaches that which became severe on several occasions after only moderate exercise. He also suffered from vertigo and loss of memory. The headaches took time to subside and were thought to be due to damage to his ophthalmic nerve. After a series of medical boards he was found fit in September 1916 and embarked for overseas service again on 4 October 1916. He was back with the battalion in September during the Somme offensive.

He fought at the Battle of Arras in April 1917 and on 10 July he assumed command of the battalion at Cherisy when Lt Col Pearce was wounded. He was promoted to Major 17 Sept 1916 and acting Lt.-Col. whilst commanding his battalion on 25 July 1917.

The battalion fought rearguard actions during the German spring offensive in March 1918 and on the 25 March the GOC 24th Brigade sent for the newly promoted Lt Col Thomson to thank him for the efforts made by the officers and men of the battalion during the German onslaught.

On 25 April 1918 Lt Col Thomson and the battalion were moved to what was considered to be a “quiet area” on the Chemin des Dames ridge.

On 27 May, whilst he was CO of 5 Battalion Yorkshires, the British Line on the Craonne Plateau was caught in a surprise attack by the Germans. Lt Col Thomson’s last report to Brigade HQ at 0600 stated “HQ company fighting about the command post and appear to be surrounded”. The Regiment was wiped out, their losses amounting to 25 officers and 638 other ranks. The
Times reported him missing on 27 May and after 6 months it had to be concluded that he had been killed in action. Witnesses were sought to confirm what had happened to him. Private 3396 AA Lyons of 5 Yorkshire Regiment who had been taken prisoner stated “I buried the body of Lt Col JAR Thomson of 5 Yorkshire Regiment at Crayonelle about three weeks after the engagement on 27 May 1918. Lt Col Thomson left me at Battalion HQ. He took a few men and Captain Thompson with him. He made an attempt to fight his way through. Captain Harold Thompson told me that his last words were “Will you write to my wife?”

He was wounded four times in total and won the MC, Croix du Guerre with gold star on 7 Jan 1917. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO). The citation reads: “For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Throughout 10 days fighting this officer has rendered splendid service, inspiring the brigade by his example of cheerfulness and leadership. When the enemy captured a village he established his battalion on some high ground above it, holding on from 9 am to 5 pm although his right was in the air, and he had neither orders nor information. On a later occasion, after encouraging his men throughout a day of intense shelling, he led a counter-attack in the evening to cover the withdrawal of another division. This was successful, as also was his rearguard action afterwards.”

Raymond is buried in Vendresse British Cemetery Plot II A 2 on the Aisne ten miles south of Laon. He is remembered on a number of memorials: the Sledmere cross outside St Mary’s church, close to the home of his former commanding officer, Sir Mark Sykes, on the Malton War Memorial and in the east window in St. Leonard’s Church, Malton which was given in his memory. The window was unveiled with the words, “In never dying honour of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 5th Batt. Yorkshire Regiment” followed by the name of James Albert Raymond Thomson, and seventeen others who lost their lives.

He was also a mason and is remembered on the Masonic Roll of Honour 1922 Lodge 660 Camalodunum in N and E Ridings of Yorkshire.

A bronze plaque mounted on mahogany commemorating the men who died is fixed to an inside wall of the Leeds Corn Exchange,

Probate was granted Sept 1918 to Ethel Thomson his widow, Frederick William Hirst and Ronald Gordon Mayson Johnson, major. His estate was valued at £14296 9s 1d. A commemorative plaque and scroll were sent to his widow on 28 July 1919. His niece recalled that years after he had been killed in action, soldiers of his regiment would call upon his widow, who too pride and comfort from the trust, respect, and admiration they spoke of so feelingly

Sources:
“A family of Four” The memories of Mrs Vivien Hirst by Raymond Prior.
CWGC
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
London Gazette notices:
London Gazette career history
London Gazette 7 Jan 1919 Awarded the Croix de Guerre
Masonic roll of honour 1922 Lodge 660 Camalodunum Yorkshire
Times Reported missing 27 May
TNA WO 374/68417

Thomson, Theodore Radford Forrester

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Regiment: Lt. (S.R.) East Surrey Regt. 1915-18

Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Thorpe, Harold Gimson

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Thorpe, Harold Gimson

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Decorations:


Decorations:
Tibbetts, Arthur Willoughby

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1915
Regiment: RNAS 1917-18
House: C

My research so far has found that he served as a midshipman with the Royal Indian Marines from 1919 to 1924. Following that period, he made his way to New Zealand. I won’t go into detail about his life in NZ except to say that he appears not to have been one of Epsom’s more illustrious graduates. He died in Auckland on 2nd December 1968 aged 68. He was single (divorced) at the time of his death. He had no children.

Tracy, Louis Turgis

Birth Year: 1894
Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. Yorks. Regt. Killed in action 1918
House: W

Tracy, Louis Turgis
Died 03/06/16 aged 21
Buried Louez, France
Reference: P2.RC.G5

Researcher: Liz Manterfield
Tracy, Louis Turgis, s. of Louis Tracy, author, of Epsom, b. 1894, D.B. and W., l. 1911, T/2nd Lt. Yorks Regt., killed in action 1918

Tredinnick, William Nicholas

Entered Epsom College: 1897
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.
Rank:
House:
Decorations: M.C.
Researcher:


Trevelyan, Maj. Walter Raleigh [Featherstonhaugh]

Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: Maj. I.A.
Rank:
House:
Decorations:
Researcher:
Trevelyan, Major Walter Raleigh [Fetherstonhaugh], I.A. (retd.), s. of Capt. W. R. Trevelyan, Leinster Regt., of Onslow Garde, b. 1893, F., l. 1911

Tribe, The Rev. Reginald Herman

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Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Trinder, Air Vice-Marshal Frank Noel

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Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh

Air Vice-Marshall Frank Noel Trinder C.B., C.B.E.

1895 – 1991

Frank Noel Trinder (FNT) was born on Christmas Eve 24th December 1895 (GRO 5a 254) in Wareham, Dorset, the only son of Dr Alfred Probus Trinder M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. and his wife Mary Maude Mole (1870-1903). He had two sisters, Mary (1900-1978) born in Tutbury Staffordshire and Ethel Margaret (1899-1977) who was born in Western Cape S Africal and no doubt FNT spent part of his early childhood in S Africa. His father had qualified at Bart’s in 1883 and practised in Tutbury in Staffordshire in his early years. In the Boer War he was a civilian medical officer with the S. African Field Force and worked as a district surgeon in the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal2. Sadly, Mary his wife, died in London in 1903 when FNT was aged 8 and in 1905 Dr Alfred married again, a widow Constance Rose Crookes (1867-1961), who had had two daughters by her first husband.

In September 1909 FNT was entered at Epsom College3 by his father who was then living at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight. He started in Forest House in the Modern Middle 1st Form where he came near the bottom of the class at the end of his first year in 1910. However he did rather better in mathematics being placed 11/22 in his set. The next year was not one marked by great progress but in 1912 there was significant improvement in the Modern V where he was 8/22 and 4/22 in maths. He won the carpentry prize, played in the 2nd XI cricket and was in the Gymnastics V111. He left the College in July 1912 when he was 17.

In 1929 when he was attending the RAF Staff College FNT wrote a paper in which he described his experience during WW1. What follows here is a brief synopsis of that paper. Its title was An Account by Course Students of War Experiences by F/Lt F.N. Trinder and was dated 11 May 1929 4. On the outbreak of war in 1914 he was working as a 3rd year apprentice in a mechanical engineering firm and was clearly very anxious to join up as a soldier and see some action. He enlisted with the 16th (Public Schools) Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment as a private in the hope of seeing service in France. In September 1914 he found himself at Kempton Park in billets “living in horse boxes and some tents”. The unit then moved to Sutton and then Woldingham. However as his progress towards the action was making little headway he accepted a commission in 2/6 North Staffordshire Regiment, a territorial unit which he found very unsatisfactory. Eventually in May 1915 he was transferred to the 6th Battalion North Staffordshires, part of the 137th Brigade of the 46th North Midland Division and in July was sent to France to join them. He went to Poperinghe and then Reminghelst finding himself next day in the line “on the right of Hill 60”. He was to spend the next 2 months there the routine involving one week in the front
line followed by a week in close support and then a week in reserve. As he described it there was a shortage of officers, a lack of rest and their existence “was as much as human endurance could stand”. On 25 September 1915 the regiment was in reserve on the first day of the Battle of Loos. During the first week of October the Division withdrew south to Bethune and then on 13 October took part in the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt. FNT was highly critical of the decision by the Staff who ordered this attack on a wide front across open ground under heavy fire. The brigade had been “expected to cross 600 yards of open ground after a preparation of two hours bombardment and half an hours gassing”. [The British used gas at this time to compensate for a shortage of ammunition. The 137th and 138th Brigades led the attack]. “A quarter of an hour after zero not a man was left standing. Some of us got half way across into an old German trench, which was held, and it was whilst observing from this position that I got hit by machine gun fire.” Following the failure of this attack when the brigade withdrew only “--- 3 officers and 250 men left the line 4 days afterwards”.

A gap in the narrative occurs at this point and it may well be that like so many traumatised soldiers who went through such experiences FNT could not bring himself to write down details of his wounds and removal to hospital as a casualty from the front line but he clearly suffered serious injury. The narrative resumes in August 1916. Ten months later he reported to a reserve battalion at Catterick. He had been permanently down-graded medically to B2 and decided to apply for a transfer to the Royal Flying Corps (RFC). In June 1916 however he was promoted from 2/Lt. to Lt. (LG 30157 p6500) and whilst waiting to be posted was sent on a musketry course to Strensall firing ranges near York. By mid-December he had heard nothing regarding his application to join the RFC and was ordered to Egypt to join the 20th Battalion Rifle Brigade on garrison duties. Two months at Tanta and Benha “was enough” and he decided to take a trip to the RFC HQ in Cairo to try again for a transfer to the RFC as an Equipment Officer (EO) which his medical grading would allow. This time he was successful and a week later in March 1917 he was ordered to report to “X’ Aircraft Depot at Aboukir” and his career as an airman began.

As from 1 August 1917 his records were updated and he was seconded from his job as a lieutenant. in the N. Staffs TF, in post as a captain attached to the Rifle Brigade, to the RFC Aerial Fighting School, Aboukir as an Equipment Officer 3rd Class (LG 30327 p10384). By January 1918 the unit had moved to Helopoli School of Gunnery. FNT found himself barred from taking part in some activities because of his lowered medical category but this did not prevent him from working as a Squadron EO dealing with quartermasters’ and stores work. He became involved in activity following the Egyptian riots in 1919 which followed the murders of a number of British officers in Cairo who were returning from leave. The squadron had to mobilise for duty further up the Nile at short notice, work which involved assembling and loading stores such as medical and camp supplies onto barges for onward movement.

In 1920 he was still a Flying Officer, now in the newly formed Royal Air Force. He had applied for a permanent commission at the time of the Armistice but had received no confirmation initially. Then in July 1920 the RAF confirmed that “Flying Officer Frank Noel Trinder is graded for purpose of pay and allowances as Flight Lt., whilst employed as a Flight Lt., Grade (A)”. This was in the technical branch backdated to 15 May 1919 (LG 31986 p7668). From June until October 1920 he joined ‘Q’ Force as Wing EO at HQ. The ‘Q’ Force included No 55 Squadron RAF from Suez, equipped with 6 DH9 bombers and 12 DH9 A’s. Their orders were to proceed to Asia Minor to assist British and Greek troops in preventing the Ottomans in Asia Minor from reaching Constantinople and by the 8th July he was in Constantinople with the Wing.

At the end of August they were sent to Iraq in the 1920 “war” as FNT described it. This involved considerable organisation by the stores officers. Apparently HMS Ark Royal was recalled from the Black Sea and after loading they sailed through Suez to Basra. Stores were then moved from Basra to Baghdad in late September on river barges as the Basra to Baghdad railway had not been completed. At the end of the year he embarked for England and “eventually reached Uxbridge in mid-January 1921 via Basra, Kardin, Bombay and Deolali, for duty at home”. His paper ended at this point. In due course he received the 1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.2

In April 1921 he was appointed as a Staff Officer in the RAF Equipment Directorate5 and it seems he remained there until he was selected for the Staff College in 1929. It was not until 1922 that he formally resigned his commission in the 6th N Staffs and was granted a permanent commission in the RAF retaining his rank of lieutenant (LG32720 p4555). A fortnight later on 30 June 1922 he was promoted from flying Officer to flight lieutenant (LG 32725 p4942).

In 1925 in Marylebone, London he married Marjorie Agnes Scott Blake (1896-1986) the daughter of a woollen agent from Scotland.1 Some years later in 1937 when FNT, recently promoted from squadron leader to wing commander6, was working as equipment officer at RAF Cardington,5 their only son John
Frank Scott was born in Ipswich. In October 1938 FNT was posted to HQ RAF Far East and John and his mother who accompanied him were destined to lead a somewhat adventurous life during WW2. On 11 March 1940 he was promoted to Group Captain (LG 35525 p1651) and moved to Washington for the next 3 years as a staff officer – equipment - with the RAF delegation there9. His wife and young son sailed separately in July 1940 from Singapore to the USA on the SS Dempo landing at St Pedro California. Then in 1943, working first as a staff officer at HQ Allied Expeditionary Air Force, FNT became Chief of Staff to the Supreme Allied Commander.9. When General Eisenhower moved to England the family moved again John now 7 and his mother leaving on the Cunard liner SS Scythia, which had been taken over as a troopship, sailing from New York for Liverpool in July 1944. FNT, who had been granted the temporary rank of Air Commodore in January 1944, had presumably been flown across to England by the RAF. Although the worst of the U-boat menace in the Atlantic was over the voyage must have caused some anxiety to the parents although fortunately they arrived safely. Young John no doubt enjoyed the excitement of the sea voyage and later was to join the Royal Navy being found in the records as a Lt. Commander RN in 1968.

In the King’s Birthday Honours in 1944 FNT was awarded the C.B.E. and the following year in June he was mentioned in despatches (LG 37119 p2989) when he was working as a Staff Officer, Air Division, Control Commission Germany, where he was largely concerned with the disarmament of the German Air Force.9. In March 1947 The Times announced that “Air Commodore Frank Noel Trinder has been appointed Senior Air Staff Officer Head Quarters Maintenance Command with the acting rank of air vice-marshall”7 and in July that year he was confirmed in that rank (LG 38015 p3259). In the Birthday Honours, in June 1949, he was appointed Companion of the Bath (C.B. LG 38628 p2795). He continued to serve at the highest level in the RAF, as Director General of Equipment at the Air Ministry, travelling in November 1950 as a member of the Diplomatic Corps crossing the Atlantic on the liner Queen Elizabeth as part of the British Joint Staff Mission to Washington DC. His last official duty took place on 15th June 1952 when following the death of HM King George VI, he took part in the funeral procession as a representative of the Air Ministry Staff. He marched behind the cortege as it progressed from Westminster Hall, where the King’s body had been Lying in State, to Paddington Station to be taken to St George’s Chapel, Windsor (LG39575 p3349).

A few months later in October 1952 he retired (LG 39669 p5393). At the retirement dinner given in his honour at the United Services Club, Pall Mall, his old friend Air Chief Marshall Sir Leslie Hollinghurst spoke of their earliest days together in the RFC9. In retirement he and his wife travelled to South Africa on holiday, perhaps visiting places where he had spent his early childhood when his father was practising there as a surgeon in the Boer War. At this time they were living at Broom Lodge in Teddington where they remained until his wife’s death at the age of 90 on 1 November 19868. Frank Trinder died at Droxford, Hampshire on 21st Aug 1991 age 95 (GRO: Vol 20 p233).

Sources:
GRO. General Registry Office
LG: London Gazette
1 Ancestry Medal Index Card.
2 Medical Directory 1910
3 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books
4 TNA Kew: AIR/1/2390/228/11/139
8 The Times: Death Notices. 6 Nov 1986

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

fTrinder, Air Vice-Marshal Frank Noel, C.B., C.B.E., s. of dr. A. P. Trinder of Bembridge, b. 1895, F., l. 1912, T/Lt. N. Staffs Regt. 1914-16, thereafter R.F.C. and R.A.F.; Broom Lodge, Teddington
A De Havilland DH9A Bomber at the Royal Air Force Museum collection Hendon in 2017 which Flt. Lt. Frank Trinder would have dealt with in “Q” Force in Asia Minor in 1920

Trotter, George James Elliot

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Trotter, Leslie Batten Currie

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_Epsom College Register 1855-1954_

Trotter, Leslie Batten Currie, s. of dr. L. B. Trotter of Coleford, Glos, b. 1882, G., Drawing Pr., l. 1901, Clare Coll., Camb, and Univ. Coll. Hosp., M.A., M.D., B.Ch., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; Greenacre, Newnham-on-Severn

Turner, Charles Vincent Gunton

[Details about Turner, Charles Vincent Gunton]

Turner, John Vivian Hall

[Details about Turner, John Vivian Hall]

Turner, Leslie Hutton

[Details about Turner, Leslie Hutton]

Turner, Staff Surgeon Douglas Duke

[Details about Turner, Staff Surgeon Douglas Duke]
1904 – Surgeon RN - 23rd May
1911 – Staff Surgeon HMS Hermes – cruiser converted to seaplane carrier transporting seaplanes across the channel – torpedoed and sunk 31/10/14 by U278 8 miles off Calais on return to Dover.
1912 – Staff Surgeon
1917 - Staff Surgeon
1918 – HMS Concord – light cruiser – Harwich Force guarding Eastern Approaches, Dover Strait

Turton, James Richard Henry

Entered Epsom College: 1896

Regiment: Surgeon R.N.V.R. 1913-18


Twining, Daniel Owen

Decorations:
Richard was born at The Knoll in Salcombe, Devon on 8 May 1895 (GRO Ref: June 1895 Kingsbridge 5b 187) the only son of Dr. Vincent Wing Twining and his wife Kate née Nelson.

Richard’s father had been born in Canada but returned to Britain to study medicine at Aberdeen. He graduated in 1886, and studied for a while at the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin. He then started a practice in Llanwrydy Wells in Wales and married Kate Nelson in Yorkshire in the same year. (GRO Ref: Dec 1893 York 9d 15). However, the following year Vincent’s brother Alfred, who had been practising medicine in Salcombe, died and Vincent repaired there to take over his practice. Richard was born the following year.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Holmleigh, 14 Allenhayes Road in Salcombe. Richard’s father was a 40 year old medical practitioner, his mother was 34, and 5 year old Richard had a sister Cicely who was 11 months. The family employed 2 servants.

Richard started in Epsom College’s Lower School, Fayrer House on 1 May 1908 and progressed to Carr House in the Upper School. The family was living at Holmleigh when his father registered him for the school. He was a very able boy academically, and came second or third in his year on the classical side of the school on several occasions. In the 1911 census his parents were still living in the 12 roomed Holmleigh. The census confirmed that they had had two children both living. Richard was recorded at Epsom College. He attained his Lower School Certificate in that year with first class passes in arithmetic, English, Latin and scripture. He gained a second division pass in the London Matriculation exam in 1912. He was also keen on rugby and played a three-quarter position in the school’s first XV 1911-12 and 1912-13 seasons. He won his second Hockey colours in 1913. In July 1913 he passed the first exam for a medical degree and went up to Emmanuel College, Cambridge in October. He had spent a year in the OTC at Epsom and joined a territorial unit, the Devon Yeomanry, as Private 2530 Trooper in C Sqn whilst at Cambridge. He served two and a half months before enlisting in Exeter on 29 September 1914. He was 5 ft 8½ins tall, weighed 11 st 6 lbs, and had a 32 inch chest that could expand to 36inches. He had a dark complexion with dark grey eyes, and brown hair. He had good hearing, good vision with normal colour vision and was fit for general service. He was Church of England.

He was discharged to a commission as a Temporary Second Lieutenant on 19 November 1914 and served nine months in the 1st Reserve Cavalry from 23 November stationed at Beaumont Barracks, Aldershot.

He applied for the regular army on 28 July 1915 expressing a preference for Royal Field Artillery or the Cavalry. The University’s Military Education Committee thought he would be well qualified to serve in either. He became Second Lieutenant 1 bn, Devonshire Regiment. 24 September 1915.

In January 1916 1bn Devonshire Regiment became part of 95 Brigade, 5th Division. In March 1916 5th Division took over a section of front line between St. Laurent Blangy and the southern edge of Vimy Ridge, near Arras. They moved south in July to reinforce The Somme.

Richard went to France 4 April 1916 and was killed on 1 July 1916.

2nd Lt JRH Tweed 3 bn attached to 1 Devon Regiment thought that Richard had been buried by a shell during a “dummy” attack at Vailley (Wailly) south of Arras. The British army sent up smoke shells and the enemy anticipating an attack started a barrage of fire. He said that his body was dug out the same day and a tablet was put up. Pte Rees 8276 also thought he had...
seen 2nd Lt Twining killed somewhere to the right of Arras. He died intestate and his father was granted the administration of his estate valued at £135 19s 4d on 25 October 1916. His address at the time of his death Holm Leigh Allenhayes Rd Salcombe. He is buried in Wailly Orchard Cemetery Pas de Calais France, Plot I C. 7. Wailly is 3 miles south west of Arras. His headstone is inscribed “Counting Not the Cost, Faced Death”. He is remembered on the Salcombe War Memorial and on the Emmanuel College war memorial. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to father at 24 St James Mansions, West End Lane, NW6.

Sources:
Census
Epsom College Register manuscript and printed
Epsom College yellow book
Emmanuel College RoH
Exeter and Plymouth Gazette 12 Jul 1916
Free BMD
London Gazette Nov 1914 and Sept 1915
Salcombe History Society
TNA file WO 339/20788
Western Times 12 July 1916

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Twining, Richard Wake, s. of dr. V. W. Twining of Salcombe, b. 1895, L.S. and C, XV; l. 1913, medical student, T/2nd Lt. Devon Regt., killed in action 1916

The second witness statement.

Richard Twining’s home at Holmleigh, Salcomb
The first witness of his death.

Tyndale, The Rev. Oliver Mordaunt

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Upton, Algernon Randolph

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

ALGERNON RANDOLPH UPTON (1889-1929). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.) [Epsom College 1901-1907. prefect. Rugby XV. Captain of Cricket XI] was the son of Dr H. C. Upton, of Hove, Sussex, and brother of Victor Crowther Upton [Epsom College 1899-1900]. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, and went into general practice at Hove, Sussex. He was at one time a Surgeon in the Indian Medical Service. During the First World War he served as a Captain in the R.A.M.C. (1915-1917).

Veale, Reginald McKenzie

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Researcher:

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Veale, Reginald McKenzie, s. of W. B. Veale, silk merchant, of Croydon, b. 1890, P., XI, l. 1907, Guy’s Hosp., L.D.S., R.C.S., T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18; Thornbury, Elmfield Road, Bromley, Kent
Vernon, Thomas Freeman

Entered Epsom College: 1906
Regiment: Lt. I.A. 1916-18

Vick, Richard Iles

Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Capt. S.W.B. 1914-20

Vinter, Noel Sydney Bailey

Entered Epsom College: 1912

Vivian, Capt. Richard Trevor

Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: Capt. R.A.M.C. Missing, believed killed in action 1916

Vivian, Richard Trevor

Died 08/03/16 aged 27
Unit RAMC, att 1/6 Bn DR
Buried Basra Memorial, Iraq
Reference Panel 42

Elizabeth Manterfield

Trevor, as he was known, was born on 22 January 1889 at Chase Side, Southgate, Middlesex (GRO Ref: Mar 1889, Southgate 3a 394) son of Dr Richard Thomas Vivian and his wife Annie Maria nee Sugden. Dr Vivian had obtained his LRCP in Edinburgh, and was a member of the English Royal College of Surgeons. Trevor was baptised on 2 Apr 1889 at Christ Church, Southgate. In the 1891 census 2 year old Trevor was living with his family at Roseville, Winchmore Hill, Middlesex. His father was a 43 year old registered general medical practitioner. Annie was 39. Trevor had 4 older siblings Harold Sugden aged 9, Charles St Aubyn 8, Kate Evelyn 6, and Graham Linsell 3. The family had a cook and housemaid and 2 nurses looking after them.

In 1901 11 year old Trevor was at school at Blatchington Place, in Sussex.
Trevor and his three older brothers were educated at Epsom College. He entered the Senior School on 19 September 1901 joining the Middle IV form in Granville House. His father who was still living at Winchmore Hill, London registered him. He was particularly keen on all sport. He played half back in the college’s rugby 2nd XV winning his colours in 1905. He played a good defensive game although at first his passing could be very erratic and his play at half was considered to be unsound, but he had only begun to play at the end of the season.

He won his Second XI colours for cricket in July 1904 and was considered to be a steady bat of much promise although he did not start soon enough. By July 1905 he was playing in the First XI where he was a fair bat and change bowler, although he could field better seems to have satisfied with moderate standard in all departments of the game. In July 1905 it was noted that he came off well with bat and ball in the Whitgift match. His critique for the season stated that “as a batsman he was too much given to playing back with a cross. His bowling was too “jammy” to be really effective. With more twist and change of pace, well disguised, he might prove a useful bowler. Works hard in the field.” He also played as a fast left inside in the hockey team and took part in the Gym VIII.

He passed the London Matriculation in June 1905 and left Epsom College in July 1906 having won a scholarship to St Bartholomew’s Hospital in London. Here he passed his medical exams in 1907 and 1909 and passed the Conjoint Board in April 1911. He attained his LRCP and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons as shown on his medical registration certificate 44520/E dated 12 May 1911. He continued to be a keen sportsman throughout his studies and in 1909 he played hockey for the United Hospitals and for Southgate.

In the 1911 census Trevor, his brother Graham and their mother were staying at the Four Winds Hotel, Tilford Rd, Hindhead, Surrey, possibly for a holiday. Dr Vivian was at their 11 roomed home, Roseville, in Southgate.

Trevor was keen to join the RAMC and his name was on the list of candidates on 14 July 1910. At his medical on 26 July 1911 he was 67 ins tall, and had a 35 inch chest that would expand to 38 inches. He weighed 145 lbs. His hearing was good as was his eyesight, with no colour blindness, and he had good general health and level of fitness. He was accepted and became lieutenant on 28 July 1911. He was posted to India on 22 October 1913. He was promoted to captain on 28 Jan 1915.

At the beginning of the war he was attached to the 1/6 Devons as their Medical Officer and served in the military hospital at Bangalore, India before going to Mesopotamia with the 3rd Echelon GHQ, Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force. He embarked on Troop Ship Elephanta at Karachi on 30 December 1915 and disembarked at Basra 6 Jan 1916. From here they set off on the notorious “long march” (over 200 miles) up country to relieve the besieged city of Kut on heavy roads and swampy conditions, in the bitter cold and wet, still equipped in Indian drill uniform, with meagre rations and carrying a 56 pound pack. The battalion was in the assault on the Dujailah Redoubt, Es Sinn, on 7/8 Mar 1916. From 1 to 7 March the Devons were in the trenches at Senna. They marched 18 miles through the night of March 7/8. They marched a further seven miles in the morning to reach Dijailah Depression, to prepare for the attack on Es Sinn, but had to fight the whole time. At 1300 they were diverted to help the troops attacking the Dijailah Redoubt in scorching heat and with little cover, where they sustained heavy casualties from enemy machine gun fire. At nightfall they had started to entrench but at 0130 they were ordered to withdraw. They were just evacuating the last man when the enemy fired a rocket, followed with rifle and machine gun fire and grenades. The troops scattered and took cover. When the firing ceased, the Devons had to collect their men and reassemble. * Fighting continued without ceasing for 21 hours and they had no sleep for 2 nights. The men had meagre rations and no water for 36 hours except the little they had in their bottles.

The Devons lost 8 officers killed and 8 missing, including Trevor. In addition 22 men were killed, and 141 wounded with a further 22 missing. Mrs Vivian received many reports that Trevor had shown great courage attending the wounded under fire. After the assault he had gone out with an orderly under cover of darkness to the left of the position where there were some wounded and where there were known to be Arabss looting. Despite being warned of the danger he insisted on going. He dressed five or six men and sent them in but neither he nor his orderly came back and he was reported missing. At first it was hoped that he had been taken a prisoner of war but the number of reports on how he was wounded under fire and the lapse of time since his disappearance led to the conclusion that he had been killed. Major McCreey (regiment not stated) who had been taken prisoner by the Turks, wrote to Mrs Vivian. He told her that when he had been taken prisoner on 8 March he had a conversation with two Turkish officers about the British doctor who had been killed on 8 Mar at Dugailah Redoubt and they had buried him. One officer was very positive about it because he had seen the doctor attending the wounded under fire. They said the grave had been with hard earth and stones.

Trevor’s CO, Colonel Radcliffe, recommended him for the Victoria Cross. Although this was not endorsed he was posthumously mentioned in despatches 19 October 1916. His obituary in The Epsomian described him as “Always cheery and keen on his work, while he was popular wherever he went, he crowned a well spent life by an act of unselfish sacrifice.”

He is remembered on the Basra Memorial Panel 42
At time of his death his address was given as Dingley, Winchmore Hill, London. Letters of administration were granted to his widowed mother on 9 July 1920 but she renounced these in favour of his brother Harold Sugden Vivian. Trevor had been unmarried and had no real estate to dispose of. His effects were valued at £376 8s 11d.

Sources:
Bapt register
Census 1891, 1901, 1911
1/6 Devon War diary
CWGC
Epsom College register m/s
Epsomian Critiques

Western Morning News April 1916 * The description of the engagement has been derived from the censored version that appeared in the press and was accepted as the official version at the time. It is alleged that when front line troops in Mesopotamia read the account it was met with disbelief and anger as it covered up the blunders that actually occurred and did
not disclose the waste of life that resulted.


Trevor Vivian’s birth certificate

Trevor Vivian aged about 13
The Vivian brothers in the Cricket XI.

Trevor Vivian's Medical Registration certificate.

Trevor Vivian's death.

Vivian, Charles St. Aubyn

Entered Epsom College: 1895

Decorations: HMM?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Entrance Year</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
<th>Researcher</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vivian, Graham Linsell</td>
<td>T/Capt I.A.</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1887</td>
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<td>T/Lt. R.A.M.C.</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1881</td>
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<td>Wade, Arthur Reginald</td>
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<td>1892</td>
<td>1879</td>
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<td>Walch, Cdr. Austin Charles</td>
<td>Cdr. R.N.</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Walch, Lt.-Col. Heber James

Birth Year: 1911
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Lt.-Col. formerly R.A.S.C.
Decorations: O.B.E.
House: HMM?
Rank

Walker, Air Commodore William John Graves

Birth Year: 1904
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: Air Commodore R.A.F.
Decorations: C.B.E.
House: HMM?
Rank

Walker, Ernest Haines

Birth Year: 1903
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Capt R.A.M.C. 1914-18
Decorations:
House: HMM?
Rank

Walker, Godfrey Alan

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: Surg. R.N.D. Killed in action 1916
Decorations:
House: C
Rank Surgeon

Walker, Godfrey Alan

Died 14/11/16 aged 28
Buried Hamel Cemetery, France

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Surgeon Lieutenant Godfrey Alan Walker
Royal Naval Division (RND) 1st Field Ambulance
Killed in action 14 Nov 1916

Alan was born at Mirfield, York on 3 Feb 88, (GRO Ref: Mae 1888 Dewsbury 9b 639) the son of Dr John Henry Walker of Highgarth, Mirfield and his wife, Emily, the daughter of Godfrey Sykes of Huddersfield. His parents had married in 1879 (GRO Ref: Dec 1879 Huddersfield 9a 560).

In the 1891 census the family was living at Sandsfield house, Stockbank, Mirfield, Yorkshire. Godfrey’s father was 34 years old and the general manager of a woollen mill. He had been born in Sandy Creek, Queensland, Australia. His mother was 36. Three year old Godfrey had three siblings: Hilda aged 8, Edward 6 and Alec 2. The family employed a “Mother’s Help” and a domestic
In the 1901 census Godfrey’s father and Edward are away from home. He is living with his mother, and siblings Alec 12, Henry 9, John 6. They still employ a mother’s help and a general servant, and have two visitors.

He entered Epsom College, Forest House on 19 September 1901. At the time his father registered him, the family was still living at Sandsfield House. He started in the Upper Third form but seems to have been put up a year as on Founders Day in July 1902 he came top of the 24 boys in the Lower Fourth and was awarded the form prize. A year later he came second in the Upper Fourth form (23 boys) and again won the form prize. He went on to be top of the Modern Middle Forms II and I, taking the form prize each year. In 1905 he attained his Lower School Certificate with a first class pass in arithmetic. He also passed the Preliminary Scientific Examinations in biology and chemistry. As well as being a Prefect he played rugby in the College’s 2nd XV and played cricket. His critique in July 1906 described him as a good bowler on his day with a puzzling swerve from the leg, but with very little idea of batting and he was a poor fielder.

In the 1911 census Godfrey’s family was living at Highgarth, Mirfield a 12 roomed residence. The census confirmed that John and Emily had had 7 children, 6 of whom were still living.

He left Epsom College in July 1906 to study medicine at London Hospital Medical College. He gained his MRCS, LRCP in 1912 and MB, 1914. He continued his interest in sport and whilst at London Hospital he was both Secretary and Captain of the football and hockey teams for his years.

After qualifying, he held posts of House Surgeon, at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield and Nottingham. On 6 August 1914 he volunteered as a temporary Naval Surgeon and was posted to HMS Nelson. He served for a year at Cromarty.

He joined the Royal Naval Division at Blandford in August 1915 and served in Gallipoli from Sept 1915. He was one of the last to leave Helles. For a time he had a hospital at Tenedos. From here he was drafted to the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force 1st RN Field Ambulance, Royal Marines Medical Unit on 25 October 1915. He was attached to Anson Battalion as Medical Officer vice Surgeon A Ballance on 11 Nov 1915 and then rejoined the 1st RN Field Ambulance, on 29 Nov 1915. He had not had any leave for over 14 months.

He went to France in May 1916 where he was killed by a bursting shell while attending the wounded at Beaumont Hamel on 14 November 1916 during the course of the Battle of Ancre 13-19 Nov 1916. The Staff Surgeon wrote “The ADMS of 63 RND had, I know, a very high opinion of him and so had I and all his brother Medical Officers. His death is a great loss to us. We always said of him that the greater the danger, the cooler he got and could always be depended on in a tight corner.”

He was buried Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel Somme France grave II D 218. Alongside is the grave of the chaplain who was killed at the same time.

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the Victory and British war Medals which were set to his father (IC38/775) Probate was granted on 11 April 1917 to John Henry Walker and Edward Sykes Walker, woollen manufacturers. His effects were valued at £515 13s 5d

Godfrey’s younger brother 2nd Lt Henry Gerald Walker Yorks Light Infantry was killed on 1 July 1916 and youngest brother was a prisoner of war at Ruhleben.

Sources:
Census returns
CWGC
DeRuvigny’s Roll of Honour, Vol. 1;
Epsom College Register 1855-1924, Epsom College Register 1855-1954.
Epsom College Yellow Book
Epsomian
Navy Lists
Times 24 Nov 16
TNA ref ADM /171
Photo Prefects 1905-6

Walker, Lt.-Col. Charles Hugh

Birth Year: HMM? 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: Lt.-Col. Border Regt.
House: HMM? 1914
Rank: M.C.

Walker, Robert Lawrence

Birth Year: HMM? 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1912
House: HMM? 1918
Rank: 1914

Wallace, Frederick Herbert

Birth Year: HMM? 1880
Entered Epsom College: 1892
Regiment: T/F.O. R.A.F. 1914-18
House: HMM? 1918
Rank: 1914

Wallington, Kenneth Tratman King

Birth Year: HMM? 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1905
House: HMM? 1918
Rank: 1914
Researcher: Liz Manterfield

**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**


Ward, Alexander [Ivan]  
**Entered Epsom College:** 1899  
**Regiment:** T/Capt. D.L.I. 1914-18  
**Rank**  
**Decorations:** M.B.E.  
**Birth Year:** 1886  
**House:** HMM? □  
**Unit**  
**Died 20/04/18 aged 24**  
**Buried** Tooting Churchyard, London  
**Reference:** Spec. Memorial

Bertram Etty Ward Private 534182 4th London Field Ambulance RAMC  
Died of wounds on Saturday 20 Apr 1918

Bertram was born 10 Dec 1893 (GRO Ref: Mar 1894 Wandsworth 1d 808) one of seven children born to John Barron Ward and his wife Etty Maria nee Lawson. His parents had married on 20 August 18818 Bertram’s father had been a wholesale stationer, but his future wife was the daughter of a wholesale jeweller and this gave him the opportunity to become a diamond merchant.

Bertram was baptised at Streatham on 3 Feb 1894. His family was living at Mitcham Road, Streatham with his four siblings: Margaret Mary Agnes born in 1883, John Lawson 1884, George Reginald 1885, and Kathleen Mary 1889. Two more sisters would arrive with Barbara Helen in 1897 and Audrey Esther 1905.

In the 1901 census Bertam’s father was 46 and recorded as a wholesale jeweller, his mother was 43, Bertram was 7, his brother John was 17 and sister Barbara was 3. The family employed a nurse, cook and parlour maid.

Bertram’s father died in September 1905 when the family was living at 106 Leigham Court Road, Streatham. The following year Bertram’s mother registered him for Epsom College. He entered the Upper Third form at Epsom College, Wilson House on 20 Sept 1906. In 1907 he came 5th out of 21 boys in the Middle Fourth form, then 13th out of 23 boys in Shell form and obtained his Lower School certificate. In 1909 he came second out of 18 boys in the Lower Fifth form, and finished 6th in the Upper Fifth form in July 1910.

In 1910 he was playing for the second XV rugby football team. His critique in the Epsomian described him as a “fair forward but hardly fulfilled expectations. Good out of touch.” He left the College in July 1910.

He enlisted in Sept 1914 at Chelsea. According to his obituary in the Epsomian (and his medal card) he went to France 17 Mar 1915 with 4th London Field Ambulance and served continuously in France usually near or in the firing line. He was firstly a driver but later transferred to be a stretcher bearer. He was wounded whilst carrying in the wounded at Martinsart and died from his wounds on Saturday 20 April 1918. When he was wounded he was attached to the Regimental Aid Post of 15 London Regiment. He was returned to Britain for treatment at Stobhill, Glasgow. This hospital was used for treating wounded service men during the Great War.

Bertram’s address on the probate record was 6 Addison Mansions, West Kensington but it says that he died at Stobhill. Probate was granted 17 Sept 1918 to his mother Etty Maria Ward, widow and his estate was valued at £624 8s 9d. There is a special memorial in St Nicholas’s churchyard (D8), Tooting, London. He was awarded 1915 Star and the British War and victory medals. His regimental number of his medal card was 1733
**Sources**
- CWGC
- Epsom Register m/s
- Epsom Yellow Book
- Epsomian
- Probate
- Soldiers Died

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**Epsom College Register 1855-1954**

Ward, Bertram Etty, s. of J. B. Ward, diamond merchant, of Streatham, b. 1893, W., l. 1910, Pte. R.A.M.C., d. of wounds 1918

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**Wilson House War Memorial**

Bertram Etty Ward

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Ward, Capt. Otho Charles

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>1884</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>1896</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
<th>2/124th Baluchistan Infantry, killed in action in Mesopotamia</th>
<th>Rank: Capt</th>
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<th>Unit:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Amara War Cemetery, Iraq</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reference:</td>
<td>XV111. K. 5.</td>
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</table>
WARD Otho Charles Captain
124 Duchess of Connaught’s Baluchistan
KIA 11 Jan 1917

Otho was born on 17 Feb 1884 in Dublin the second son of Espine Charles Robert Ward and his wife Jane Maria Colpoys nee Keane. His father was a Surgeon-Major in the Army Medical Department. Otho was baptised on 23 March 1884 in St Paul’s church Dublin. At the time the family was living in the Phoenix Park area of Dublin. Rev Charles Ward baptised baby Otho and this may have been his grandfather. His parents had married in the parish church of Godalming, Surrey on 1 May 1879 and were first cousins.

In 1893 the family was living at Glenbrook, Castleconnell, Limerick. Otho joined Epsom College Carr House on 17 Sept 1896 having won a College Exhibition, worth £15 a year. He was registered by his mother who was living at Belmont, Castleconnell, Limerick. Otho’s older brother Espine Francis (1893-1901) was already at the school as a Foundation Scholar and his younger brother William Robert became a Foundation Scholar 1898-1905. The boys’ father had been in the army for over 15 years and had lost his sight partly due to overwork and partly due to working in harsh conditions on active service abroad. His general health had begun to fail and he needed careful nursing and care. Not only had he a wife and five children to support, but he was partly responsible for his mother.

In 1897 Otho came 17th out of 26 boys in the Lower Fourth form but won the form prize. The following year he came 4th out of 25 boys in the Middle Fourth form. He then moved into Shell form where he came 23 out of 25 boys but in 1900 improved his position to come 9th out of 18 boys in the Lower Fifth. He was a sub-Prefect and played in the Rugby XV.

He left Epsom College in 19018 His parents were resident in Stradbally, County Limerick with Otho’s three week old sister, Sheila

In 1902, having qualified in the examination to enter Woolwich, he received a King’s cadetship and entered Sandhurst. On 21 Jan 1903 he passed out from Sandhurst into the Indian Staff Corps and was attached to the West Yorkshire Regiment stationed at Quetta..

He was appointed temporarily to 112 Bombay Infantry stationed at Dessa.

On 21 Apr 05 he was promoted to lieutenant

In 1911 his widowed mother was living on her own in a 17 roomed residence in Stradbally, Castleconnell, County Limerick. She confirmed that she had borne 6 children. Otho’s father had died in November 1909.

Otho was killed in action at Kut-al-Amara. The Ottoman Army besieged the 8000 strong British-Indian garrison in the town of Kut 100 miles south of Baghdad from 7 Dec 1915 to 29 Apr 1916. Following the surrender of the garrison, the survivors were marched to imprisonment at Aleppo where most of them perished.

He is buried Amara Cemetery Iraq XVIII K V and remembered in All Saints church Stradbally, Castleconnell County Limerick.

Sources
Baptismal Register
CWGC
Census returns Ireland 1901 and 1911
Epsom college Yellow Book
Epsomian Mar 1902, June 1904
Memorial tablet in Stradbally church

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Ward, George Edgar Septimus

Birth Year: 1888
Entered Epsom College: 1901
House: HMM?
Rank: T/Surg. Lt. R.N. 1914-18;

Ward, Gordon Reginald

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: Capt (S.R.), T/Maj. R.A.M.C.

Ward, Kenneth Laugharne Stanley

- Birth Year: 1894
- Entered Epsom College: 1908
- Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. 1917-18
- House: HMM? □
- Rank

Ward, Thomas Hamilton

- Birth Year: 1864
- Entered Epsom College: 1875
- Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18
- House: HMM? □
- Rank

Ward, William Robert

- Birth Year: 1887
- Entered Epsom College: 1898
- Regiment: Capt. and Cmdt. Sarhad Levy Corps (Sistan Field Force) 1917
- House: HMM? □
- Rank

Warren, Surg. Rear Admiral Leonard

- Birth Year: 1880
- Entered Epsom College: 1894
- Regiment: Surg. Rear Admiral R.N.
- House: HMM? □
- Rank

Watson, Leslie Riley

- Birth Year: 1897
- Entered Epsom College: 1910
- Regiment: "C" Bty. 246th (West Riding) Bde.R.F.A.
- House: P
- Rank 2Lt
Leslie Riley-Watson 2nd Lieut, RFA  C Bty, 246th West Riding Brigade. Interpreter
Killed in action 4 July 1916

Leslie was born on 11 July 1897 at 2 bower road, Harrogate (GRO Ref: Sep 1897 Knaresborough 9a 105) the second son of Joseph Riley Watson and his wife Annie Amelia nee Turner. His parents had married in 1889 (GRO Ref: Sep 1889 Knaresborough 9a 181). The family was well known in the area as his grandfather, Thomas Watson, had been a JP and his father was a keen cricketer throughout his life and had played for Cambridge University in 1882 and England in 1888.

In the 1901 Census the family was living at 60 Cheltenham Mount, Harrogate. This was a very large house known as St Aubyns. Joseph Riley Watson was a 42 year old physician and surgeon and Annie Amelia was 37. Three year old Leslie had three siblings: Kate 9, Clifford 7 and Margery aged 1. Leslie's paternal grandfather, Thomas Watson a retired magistrate and school master was living with the family and they employed a cook, a housemaid and a nurse.

Leslie entered Epsom College's Modern Fifth Form, in Propert House, on 15 Sept 1910 having won a Junior Scholarship. His family was still living at St Aubyns, Harrogate. He was recorded at the College in the 1911 census. He came fifth out of 16 boys in the Modern Fifth form in 1911, and top out of 22 boys in his form in 1912, when he also attained his School Certificate.

However, 1912 was not all glory as the Headmaster noted in his diary to the Common Room that Watson L had been deprived of all privileges pertaining to a sub-prefect for a fortnight for possessing fireworks on the school premises. He played in the school Rugby XV and had served in the College OTC until Xmas 1912 when he left school and became a worsted spinner.

In 1911 the family was still living in the 19 roomed St Aubyns. Leslie's sisters, Kate aged 19 Margery 11 and Valerie 8 were living at home with his parents and grandfather. The family employed a cook and a maid. Joseph and Annie had had 6 children of whom 5 were still living. Leslie's father died on 18 October 1915 and his mother on 30 November 1916.

Leslie attested for the Territorial Force at York on 7 September 1914 and joined the Imperial Services Section, West Yorkshire Regiment as a private. He was 19 years old, 5ft 9½ inches tall, weighed 11st 4lbs, had a 33½-37½ins chest and was fit physically.

He had a dark complexion, with dark hair and blue eyes. He gave his faith as Congregationalist. For the next six weeks he was training at home. On 26 October he transferred to the West Riding Clearing hospital at Hazelwood Barracks, Leeds and was posted to France with the BEF on 30 Oct 1914. He embarked at Southampton on 31 Oct 1914 and arrived in Boulogne the next day. He served as Pte 82 in RAMC 7 CCS at Merville and was then attached to West Riding Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) on 1 Jan 1915 where he remained until 16 Feb 1915. At this date his pay was advanced to the rate of corps pay. He was granted two periods of leave from 21 June to 25 June 1915 and from 22 October until 25 October 1915, but did not rejoin his unit after the second. This caused some consternation until the OC 7 CCS received the unofficial information that Leslie had been admitted to No 2 Northern General Hospital in England.

He had been nominated for a commission on 3 Feb which he obtained on 3 Nov 1915. The following announcement appeared in the London Gazette 10 Jan 1916 :

“Territorial Force West Riding Brigade. Private Leslie Riley Watson, from .Casualty Clearing Station, Royal Army Medical Corps, to be Second Lieutenant Dated 4th November, 1915”. He served in C Battery Royal Field Artillery and was killed in action on 4 June 1916.

Initially he was buried in Paisley Avenue Cemetery, but he was removed from there on 31 July 1920 and reburied in grave XII J 5 Connaught Cemetery, Thiepval Wood north-east of Albert as part of an arrangement to consolidate scattered graves and cemeteries. Leslie is also remembered on his parents’ tombstone in Harlow Hill cemetery, Harrogate.

He was awarded the 1914 star and British war and victory medals, which were sent to his brother Clifford at Bubwith near Selby.

He died intestate and administration of his estate, valued at £109 5s 6d, was granted to his mother Annie Amelia Watson, widow, on 26 Oct 1916. However although she obtained the letters of administration, she died in November before she could complete the administration. Her executors Thomas Watson, Arthur Langford Bastable (son in law) and Clifford Riley Watson took on the responsibility for Leslie’s effects which were shared between his siblings. A death plaque and scroll were also sent to his family.

Sources:
CWGC
Epsom College register m/s
Epsom College Yellow book
Officers who died in the Great War
Probate
Watson, Leslie Riley, s. of J. R. Watson of Harrogate, b. 1897, P., XV, I. 1912, T/and Lt. R.F.A., killed in action 1916

Leslie Watson

1st XV, 1912
Watson, Maj. Alec Ferrier

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1911
Regiment: Maj. I.A.


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Waugh, George, Ernest

Birth Year: 1875
Entered Epsom College: 1887
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Wearne, Hugh

Birth Year: 1891
Entered Epsom College: 1905
Regiment: Capt. Canadian Forestry Corps 1916-18


Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Weatherley, Capt. Edward Frederick Christopher

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1909
Regiment: Capt. I.A. desp.

Researcher: Weatherley, Capt. Edward Frederick Christopher
Weatherley, Capt. Edward Frederic Christopher [Ford], I.A., s. of dr. A. J. Weatherley of Kurseong, b. 1897, L.S. and P., l. 1915, desp., d. 1927 as a result of active service

Webb, Harry Weston

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birth Year:</th>
<th>1894</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College:</th>
<th>1909</th>
<th>Regiment:</th>
<th>T/Lt. Ox. and Bucks L.I. Killed in action 1918</th>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Rank:</td>
<td>Lt</td>
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</table>

**Webb, Henry Weston**

**Died** 24/08/1916 aged 24

**Unit** Ox. and Bucks. L.I.

**Buried** Index of War Deaths Army Officers

**Reference:** vol:0 14 page:327

FBMD Chorlton 8c 839 Jun 1918

**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield

---

**WEBB Henry Weston Lieutenant**

9 Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry attached 5th Battalion

24 August 1916

Henry was born on 8 August 1894 in Leamington, Warwickshire the son of Richard Webb and Ellen his wife. His father was a wine merchant.

He was baptised on 26 April 1911 at St John Ladywood, Birmingham.

In the 1901 census the family was living at Blossom Field Road, Solihull. Richard was 62 years old and wine merchant. His wife Ellen, known as Nellie, was 43. Six year old Harry had three siblings Dorothea 14, Queenie 9 and Hardy 6. The family employed a Cook, nurse, and housemaid.

His father registered him for Epsom College and he entered the Lower Fifth Form in Propert House on 19 Jan 1909. Henry did not shine academically, consistently coming in 15th place in forms of 20-22 boys. In the 1911 census Henry’s family was still at Briarwood, Blossom Field Road, in Solihull, a 12 roomed house. Richard aged 72 was manufacturing bedsteads. Nellie was 58, Victor 19, Lillian Kathleen 19 and were at home. The family employed a cook and a housemaid.

Henry left Epsom College in July 1912 and entered University College, London in October 1913, but he joined the 15 Service Bn Royal Warwicks at Sutton Coldfield as Private 15/750 on 17 Sept 1914. He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 11 Jan 1915 and to Corporal on 11 May 1915. He had been in No 7 Hut. He was discharged to a commission in the 9th Service Bn Ox and Bucks on 9 June 1915 with 266 days home service and was instructed to report to the OC at Oxford between 2 and 4pm on 14 June 1915. He went to France on 11 Feb 1916.

He gave his father who was still living at Briarwood, Solihull as his next of kin. Henry was 5ft 6⅝ins, weighed 126 lbs, and had a 30½in chest which expanded to 35½ins. He had a fresh complexion with hazel eyes, and light hair. He had a birth mark on his right arm and a scar on his knee, and was generally fit, with a good physical development. He had been vaccinated in infancy. He was Church of England.

The 5th (Service) Bn, 42 Brigade, 14 (Light) Division arrived at Sus-St. Leger from the Arras Sector on 27 July 1916. They moved to Mezerolles on 29 July, Berneuil on 31 July, Buire on 7 Aug, Fricourt 12 Aug, and Montauban on 19 Aug. They were then involved in the attack on Delville Wood on 24 August where Henry lost his life. The battalion moved forward on the left of 42 Bde, and made good progress through the wood, the left flank being on Flers Road. They were relieved and moved to Fricourt on 26 April having lost 170 officers and men.

Henry is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing on the Somme, Pier and Face 10A and 10D. He is also remembered on the St James memorial, Shirley, Surrey.

He was awarded the British War and Victory medals which were sent to his father in Feb 1922 at 19 Denbigh Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

**Sources**

- Birmingham Daily Mail 31 August 1916
- CWGC
- Epsom College Register m/s
- Epsom College Yellow Book
- London Gazette June 1915
- Medal Index Cards
- TNA WO 339/2091
- The Thiepval Project – ken@klinge.demon.co.uk
- Tracing British Battalions on the Somme Ray Westlake

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**Elizabeth Manterfield**

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**Researcher:** Liz Manterfield
Webster, John Theodore Trevor

JOHN THEODORE TREvor WEBsTER

John, known as Jack, was born on 28 July 1894 the son of Dr Trevor Webster MRCS LSA of Bewdley and Constance Alathea nee Davis, his wife. His father died on 28 Oct 1902 after 19 years in practice and was the Medical and Vaccination Officer for the area. He left a widow and seven children with hardly any means. Jack’s mother applied for a Foundation Scholarship for her son. At that time the family was living at 52 Dovey Rd, Moseley. She gained enough votes on her third attempt for Jack to leave his Prep School in Bewdley and enrol him to start at Epsom College on 21 September 1905, first of all in B House in the Lower School and then in Carr House. At the time of his enrolment the family was living at The Cedars, Springfield Rd, Moseley but there is an undated note in the register stating that they had gone to 52 Lansdown Road, Handsworth (NW Birmingham). Although Jack did not have an outstanding career academically, and did not win any prizes, he made good progress through the College. In July 1906 he came 6th out of the 12 boys in the First Form. By July 1907 he had skipped the Second Form and came 8th out of 23 boys in the Lower Third. The next year he entered the Middle School and again moved up two forms, coming 17th out of 23 boys in the Lower Fourth Form and in July 1909 he was 9th out of 21 boys in the Middle Fourth Form. He then slowed down coming 15th out of 24 boys in the Upper Fourth in July 1910, and 23rd out of 25 boys in Shell Form in his last year. I have not found evidence that he took his Lower School Certificate.

After Jack left Epsom College he trained as a Mechanical Engineer with Tangyes Limited of Smethwick Birmingham, a well-known and progressive engineering company at that time, which manufactured hydraulic lifting equipment, large water pumps
and a range of industrial engines of various types. The company is no longer with us but TANGYE brand jacks are still produced. The name still has value. They sponsored him to attend the Birmingham Technical School from 1911 until 1914. He would return for a further year 1919-1920.

When WW1 was declared on 4 August 1914, Jack volunteered and joined up with the Birmingham Brigade Royal Warwickshire (BBRW) aka The Birmingham Pals. During late 1914 and early 1915, these New Army recruits were in training in Wesley Dale and Wiltshire.

During 1915 there was a dangerous shortage of artillery ammunition on the Western Front in France, which developed into the “Shell Crisis” in Whitehall. As part of the political upheavals that followed, Lloyd George was appointed Minister of Munitions and drastic action was taken to overcome the problem. In order to increase greatly the production of Cordite (aka “The Devil’s Porridge”) an immense munitions’ plant, known as HM Factory Gretna was constructed in Scotland on peat bogs on the north shore of the Solway Firth, between Gretna and Eastriggs (near Annan, D&G, then Dumfriesshire). By 1917 this plant had over 30,000 employees and the production target of 800 tons per week of RDB cordite was being achieved. Quite an achievement. However all this industrial effort had been constrained initially by a great lack of skilled engineering personnel, many of whom had joined up during the recruiting drives at the start of the war. In an effort to overcome this problem, many of these soldiers—with engineering expertise but serving in infantry regiments were transferred to the Royal Engineers. My father was in this category; he became a Sapper in 1915. From 1915-16 he worked for HJ Coles Ltd fitting Steam Travelling and Electric Cranes and from 1917-18 was Assistant Engineer at Workshops controlling Eastrigg Section, HM Factory Gretna. He was engaged on the maintenance and repair of plant, erection of new buildings, installation of new plant and controlling approx. 1000 hands.

He never talked about it very much except to say that they all worked under pretty difficult conditions and that they played soccer whenever they managed to get any time off. He remained there until production ceased in 1918 and he was demobilised.

The Gretna munitions plant was dismantled in the early 1920s, almost as quickly as it was built. The MOD still store explosives etc in the area, but very little evidence of the old plant remains except for the housing that was built for the workers. Someone with great foresight planned and built as much of this as possible to designs that could be easily converted to normal civilian use after the war was over. Probably not a politician!! So these buildings still exist 100 years later and there is a Devil’s Porridge Museum in the area.

After the war he became a draughtsman on Machine Design and Plant Layout for the Dunlop Rubber Company Ltd, Birmingham. In 1920 he moved to become Assistant Chief Draughtsman on Mass Production Schemes and Plant Layouts for Harper Bean and Sons Ltd, Dudley. From 1921-22 he returned to the Dunlop Rubber Company as Draughtsman on Machine Design.

From 1922 he was Chief Engineer Singapore branch, Huttenbach, Lazarus and Sons Ltd of London in sole charge of the department dealing with machinery for rubber factories, tin mines , ice factories, power stations, water works, irrigation and pumping plants including driving piles and making concrete foundations, responsible for obtaining orders, drawing out estimates, and carrying out installations and erection work, including control of necessary labour.

Jack also became a “well-known Rugby football player“ in Singapore. In 1926 he was Captain of the Singapore XV that defeated Perak 18-3 in Kuala Lumpur to win the Malaya Cup Final, with the match report stating that “Webster scored three glorious tries”! He came back to England on home leave in 1927, and then returned to Singapore on a second five year contract. In 1928, he met and married my Mother, Nora Rodger, who was in Malaya working as a doctor at the Malacca Mission Hospital. The Great Depression of 1929 affected the Malayan economy, rubber and tin production etc., very badly. As a result, the family returned to England in 1932 and Jack found employment with British Ropes of Dagenham, Essex for several years. In 1936, Jack was appointed as Resident Engineer at the new exhibition building then under construction in Earls Court, London, which opened in 1937. During WWII Earls Court Exhibition was requisitioned in 1939 “for the duration” by the Ministry of Works. It was first used for the repair of barrage balloons, which could be re-inflated in the main hall to test them! Subsequently, it was used for aircraft parts production and the repair of a multitude of RAF equipment items, including engine re-builds. It was a large scale operation, with Jack and his entire maintenance crew being taken over with the building by the Ministry. After the end of the war in 1945 and some necessary repairs, exhibitions and other events re-commenced at Earls Court, the first really big one being the 1948 Motor Show.

Jack stayed with the Company until his retirement in 1963. My Mother retired at the same time and, after a trip to Singapore (for old time’s sake) and Australia, they went to live in their country cottage in the Chilterns at Dunsmore, near Wendover, Bucks., where they had some very happy years together. In 1976, they moved to an apartment in Billericay, Essex to be near their daughter, Sue, who was living in Stock. Jack died there on 13 December 1979.

Earls Court Exhibition has now been demolished as part of a large housing re-development, courtesy of Boris Johnson! The last show, a musical event, was held there on 13 December 2014, 35 years to the day after Jack died. Demolition then commenced immediately.

Additional sources
Epsom College Register
Epsom College Yellow Books
Mechanical Engineer UK Records 1847-1930
Worcestershire Chronicle 7 Mar 1903
Family Tree on Ancestry

Information provided by his son Trevor Webster (Holman 1944-47) of 6/29-33 Wood Street, Lane Cove, NSW 2066, Australia 25 May 2016.

Checked and additions made by E Manterfield 16 May 2016

Trevor Webster

Jack Webster's England vs Scotland International medal from a match on 1st and 16th March, 1918.

Trevor Webster

Malaya Cup Final 1925 - Rugby Union. Singapore 25 vs Perak 3. Jack, Captain of Singapore, seated to left of the
Cup.

Trevor Webster

Jack at Epsom c1910- on right.

Jack Webster in September 1914

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
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<td>Webster, Shirley Hugh Charles, s. of dr. J. H. Webster of Weedon, b 1887, p. l. 1903, occupation unknown, Lieut. Loyal N. Lancs Regt. (T.F.) 1914-18</td>
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Wells, James Bowen Primrose

**Birth Year:** 1887  |  **Entered Epsom College:** 1902  |  **House:** C  |  **HMM?** □  

**Regiment:** T/Capt. Beds Regt. Died of wounds as prisoner of war in World  |  **Unit:** 4th Bn, Beds Regt  |  **Rank:** Lt  

**Died:** 04/04/18  |  **Aged:** 30  |  **Buried:** Blighty Valley Cem, France  

**Reference:** Mem. 1.

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

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**Lt James Bowen Primrose-Wells, 4 Bedfordshire Regiment**  
**Died of wounds: 4 April 1918**

James was born on 18 Oct 1887 on the Isle of Man, the son of Dr Albert Primrose-Wells and his wife Grace (nee Woosnam), who had married in Weston-Super-Mare on 10 Jan 1883. Grace had been born in India and the couple probably met when Albert was serving as a medical officer on a White Star ship plying between Britain and India. Albert then became surgeon to the Governor of the Isle of Man.  

In the 1891 census three year old James was living at 7 St Georges Road, Beckenham in Kent. His father, aged 36, was a general practitioner. His mother was 33. He had four siblings: Joseph aged 7, Phyllis 5, Ursula 4 and Eric 1. Albert’s niece and a visitor were living with the family and they employed 4 servants.  

In 1901 the family was living at 16 Albermarle Road, Beckenham. James’ sisters Phyllis 15, Ursula 14 and Kathleen aged 8 were at home with their parents. A mission worker and doctor were boarding with the family and a stock jobber was visiting. The family employed a cook, housemaid and parlour maid.  

He entered Epsom College’s Upper School on 24 September 1902, joining the Lower Fourth Form, in Carr House. At the end of the academic year he ranked third out of the 24 boys in his form. The following year he slipped to 12th place out of 21 boys and left in July. He does not appear to have taken his School certificate at Epsom. He was a member of the Officer Training corps (OTC) where he was a Private and a Bugler.  

He went to work in the Labour Exchange, at the Department of the Board of Trade in Whitehall, probably as an accountant. He signed up as a Territorial with the Honourable Artillery Company in 1908 as a driver but left in 1909. In May 1910 he was appointed to deputy manager of the Hull Labour Exchange.  

By 1911 the family had moved to a 10 roomed house in Pinner Wood, Pinner, Middlesex. In the census return Albert and Grace confirmed that they had six children all of whom were still living. 56 year old Albert was registered as a doctor of medicine and an electrical specialist, presumably using electro therapies, Grace was 53. 27 year old Joseph was a clerk in a shipping office and James was a deputy manager in a Board of Trade Labour Exchange. Neither Ursula nor Kathleen had occupations listed. A student was boarding with the family and they employed 2 servants.  

In 1911 James’ parents and two of his sisters emigrated to Creston, Canada and then to Victoria and he also went out to British Columbia (BC).  

When war broke out he enlisted on 1 September 1914 as Private 77820 30th Battalion British Colombia Regiment, Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). He had a medical on 18 Nov 1914 in Victoria BC and was found fit for overseas service. He was 5ft 5ins tall, had a 38inch chest when fully expanded (3inch expansion), a dark complexion with brown hair and blue eyes. He had a scar on his left hand and on the left side of his neck. He gave his faith as Christian Scientist. He had served two years in the Honourable Artillery Company when he was in the UK.  

He applied to be an officer whilst at Shorncliffe Camp in Kent. His permanent address was Albermarle, Burnside Road, Victoria, BC, although his address in Britain was No 3 Building, Napier Barracks with 30 Bn CEF. He gained a commission as a temporary Second Lieutenant in the Special Reserve and joined 4 Bn Bedfordshire Regiment on 22 May 1915. He then moved to D company in the 2nd Bn on 13 June 1916.  

On 27 June 1916 the 2nd Battalion war diary recorded that they were in the trenches at Maricourt and bombarded the enemy trenches heavily all day. The German retaliation was very heavy. During the morning two companies had to be withdrawn to the Chateau and Dones Redoubt to thin out the Liverpools, the 17 Bn and 20 Bn having had about 120 casualties during the night and early morning. At 2.25pm the sound of a mine explosion was heard in the enemy line. At 5pm James was one of a dozen officers sent to Transport as a Reserve of Officers for the coming offensive. He is next mentioned on 1 July when the battalion is still in support trenches near Maricourt and he and another officer are sent to 89 Bde HQ for duty.  

On 10 Aug 1916 at Bethune James had a “feverish attack with influenza and diarrhoea.” His condition was not given a more specific diagnosis and he recovered sufficiently to go on a Lewis gun course at Le Touquet on 5 September 1916. He returned to the Bn in Essars Trenches, Givenchy where they with were relieved by 2 Yorkshires on 8 Sept and were able to withdraw to billets at Essars. James was admitted to hospital sick. He had a recurrence of influenza and enteritis and a temperature of 104. The fever lasted for three days and his condition was sufficiently serious for him to be sent back to England on SS Brighton on 18 September where he was admitted to the Royal Free Hospital.  

When his condition improved he went to Lady Ashton Smith’s Convalsecent Home for Officers at The Hoo, Willingdon, Sussex on 27 Sept 1916. He was signed off for three months and when he joined 3 Bn on 5 Dec 1916 he was still unfit for general service as he tired easily. He was not considered to be well enough to return to duty until a Medical Board at Tunbridge Wells...
During the battle of Arras the battalion was heavily involved in the second battle of the Scarpe. On 22 Apr 1917 the British front line was facing Gavrelle. James and his battalion moved to the front line and occupied assembly trenches in front of Gavrelle with 189th Brigade on their right and 7th Royal Fusiliers on their left. At 4.45 am on 23 Apr 1917 the Battalion attacked and captured the village, thus reaching its objective. They were shelled very heavily during the day and counter-attacked in the afternoon. James was wounded in the left thigh by a machine gun bullet and a number of other officers were killed.

He was admitted to 14 General Hospital Boulogne on 23 April 1917 and then transported to England on the St Andrews on 25 April. The next day he was admitted to Lady Violet Brassey’s hospital for wounded officers at 40 Upper Grosvenor Street, London. This had been her private house, and had beds for 16 officers. The bullet had entered the outer side of his thigh, in the lower third, passed through behind femur and escaped on the inner side. It had not damaged the bone or nerve but the wound became septic and large a haemotoma formed on inner side extending to this groin. This was the second time he had been wounded. He made good progress but the Medical Board on 3 Sept 1917 felt that he would be unfit for a further month. He returned to 3 Bn at Felixstowe on 3 Oct 1917 and rejoined his battalion on 17 November having been promoted to lieutenant on 1 July 1917. After some weeks of training they relieved Hood Battalion in the front line near Viller-Plouichon 19 December and then relieved the 7 Royal Fusiliers on 22 December.

On 25 December 1917 he was admitted to 14 General Hospital Etaples with slight influenza. A message was sent to Mrs Wells at the incorrect address and did not reach her at Picton House, 38 Lee Terrace, Blackheath until 7 January. James wrote from St John Ambulance Brigade hospital Etaples on 20 Jan 1918 to notify the authorities of the error and his current location. This hospital, which opened in Sept 1915, was the most northerly hospital in Etaples and the best equipped. On 27 Mar the Battalion was moved south to a position west of Albert were they attacked the railway at 7.30. CO Lt Col Collings-Wells, James’ cousin, was killed and James was wounded in the spine. The battalion was relieved at 3.30 and marched to Senlis and billeted there until 11 am. They then marched to Mailly-Maillet and then to billets at Forceville.

His mother received a letter from a woman in Switzerland stating that her brother was a Roman Catholic priest and he had asked her to contact Mrs Primrose-Wells as he was visiting her severely wounded son everyday in hospital. No location was given but it appeared that James had earlier been in a French Casualty Clearing Station which had probably fallen into German hands.

A German list of dead was forwarded to the British War Office by the Geneva Red Cross which included information that James had died of wounds in German hands on 4 April 1918. He has a headstone in Blighty Valley Cemetery, the Somme, France but his actual grave has been lost.

James’ parents and his two sisters had returned to England to undertake war work for nearly four years. At the end of the war, his father wished to return to his practice in Canada and on 3 Jan 1919 wrote to the War Office stating that he was leaving for Canada shortly and wanted to dispose of matters relating to James’ estate before he departed. Administration of his estate, valued at £177 13s, was granted to his father on 24 April 1919. James’ address was recorded as The Elms, Chobham, Surrey. He was awarded the British War and Victory medals and is remembered on the memorial window to his cousin Col Collings-Wells VC in St John the Baptist church Markyate Hertfordshire.

Sources:
Albert Primrose Wells obituary Canadian Medical journal 1949
2nd and 4th Battalions’ War diary
CWGC
Census 1891, 1901 and 1911
Epsom College Register m/s and printed
Epsom College Yellow Book
Hull Daily Mail 2 May 1910
Medal Award rolls.
TNA WO 339/68925 long number 137324

Wells* James Bowen Primrose, s. of dr. A. P. Wells of Beckenham, b. 1887, C., l. 1904, occupation unknown, T/Capt. Beds Regt, brother of E. W. P. W. (1903), d. of wounds as a prisoner of war in World War I
James attended Abbey School, Beckenham initially, a prep school with a good reputation for getting students into public schools and the Royal Navy.

A letter from James Primrose-Wells

a letter from James Primrose-Wells
Newfoundland Ward, inside
courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, St John’s Newfoundland

Newfoundland Ward (outside)
courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, St John’s Newfoundland

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Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Welsh, Cyril Clifton  
D Bty 256th Bde, Royal Field Artillery  
17 July 1917 age 29  

Cyril was born in Monkton, Biggleswade on 28 October 1889, (GRO Ref Dec 1889 Biggleswade 3b 355), the son of Robert Crosbie Welsh and Mary Laurie nee Hooker. His parents had married at Albury in Surrey 30 April 1888 (GRO Ref: June qtr Guildford 2a 83).  

In 1891 the family was living in Biggleswade High Street where Cyril’s father, who had been born in Scotland, was a medical practitioner and surgeon. Cyril aged 17 months had a younger brother William Laurie Welsh. The family employed a cook, a nurse and a housemaid.  

By the 1901 census the family had moved to Station Road, Biggleswade. Both boys were away at school, but their younger sisters Margaret aged 8 and Ruby 6 were shown with their parents, plus a cook and a maid at this address. Cyril’s father was also the Medical Officer at Biggleswade’s hospital.  

Cyril was educated firstly at Eastfield House, East Street, Ditchling (he was there for the 1901 census) and then for a short while at Epsom College. He started on 17 September 1903 in, Forest House, in Modern Middle School I having won an entrance scholarship worth £30. He won the form prize in Modern Middle II in July 1904 and a Second Class certificate in the college of Preceptors examination. He left the college at Christmas 1904.  

He married Nellie Florence Johnson (known as Peggy) in the summer of 1914 (GRO Ref: Sept 1914 West Ham 4a 710) and lived firstly at 11a Wooler Street, Walworth Road, Surrey and then at 8 Macaulay Road, East Ham, London.  

He volunteered for active service on 2 September 1914 at East Ham. He reported at Bristol on the following day and then to 10 Cavalry Reserve Regiment at its barracks in The Curragh, Ireland as Trooper (Private) No. 21059. No 10 Reserve Regiment was one of 17 cavalry regiments formed on the outbreak of war to train replacement drafts for the active regiments. The 10th was affiliated to the 4th Hussars.  

After serving 178 days at home, Cyril was discharged to a commission on 26 February 1915. He was 25 years 4 months old, 5ft 8ins tall, and weighed 154 lbs. He had a 37in chest that expanded to 39ins but was slightly pigeon-chested. He had a dark complexion with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. His eyesight was good in both eyes. He had a scar on his right arm and another on his right shin. He was Church of England and considered to be of good moral and military character. Initially he was with 258 Brigade, but he was transferred to 256 (Highland) Brigade in the field. On 18 March 1917, whilst employed as 2IC of No. 6 Gun Battery he received an instruction from the War Office to be Acting Captain. He was transferred to the Permanent List of Officers.  

He was granted 10 days leave on 31 March 1917.  

Cyril was killed in action near Poperinghe on 17 July 1917 whilst serving as 2IC of No. 6 Gun Battery with 256 Brigade, in 51 Division. He was buried in Poperinghe New Military Cemetery, Belgium, grave number II D 33.  

He is also remembered on the war memorial in the Market Square, Biggleswade.  

Gen Oldfield wrote “He was a very gallant man and I had personally taken steps to get him a regular commission. I remember writing about him: ‘When peace comes we cannot afford to do without him in the regiment.’ He had a tremendous capacity for work.” His CO Lt Col Dyson wrote “He was an invaluable officer of the highest type of courage, well proved on many occasions with wonderful energy and capacity for work.”  

His wife was left in difficult circumstances financially and she felt that she was not in a position to obtain the letters required to administer his estate which was of very little value. She requested the War Office to send his effects to her c/o Mrs Newport, 55 East Road, Kingston on Thames. His mother applied for probate (administration with a will) on 31 July 1919. His estate was valued at £70 10s 2d. She also applied for his 1915 star, British and Victory medals on 19 Feb 1920. Cyril’s widow remarried in 1920.  

Sources  
Census returns 1891, 1901, 1911  
CWGC  
De Ruvigny  
Epsom Register M/s and printed  
Epsom Yellow Book  
Free BMD  
Probate  
Soldiers Died  
Times  
TNA file WO 339/25413
Welsh, Cyril Clifton, s. of dr. R. C. Welsh of Biggleswade, b. 1889, F., l. 1904, occupation unknown, T/Capt. R.F.A., killed in action 1917

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White, Cyril

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1907
Rank: Rfn

Died 25/04/15 aged 20
Buried Vlamertinghe Mil Cem, Belgium
Reference: I. F. 17.

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WHITE Cyril Rifleman 9687, 5 Bn London Rifle Brigade
Killed 25 April 1915
Cyril was born in Ealing on 1 Mar 1895 the son of Frederic Charles White and his wife Mildred Sarah nee Hutchings. He was baptised in St John’s church, Ealing on 24 March 1895, when the family was living at 8 Brompton Road, Ealing. His parents had married in St John’s on 12 September 1893. Frederic was a solicitor.

In the 1901 census the family was living at 19 Drayton Green Road, Ealing. 42 year old Frederic was still a solicitor, Mildred was 27. Cyril was 6 and had a five year old brother, Geoffrey. The family employed a nursery governess and a cook.

Cyril’s father registered him to start at Epsom College in the Upper Third form of the Lower School, Fayrer House on 3 May 1907. At that time the Whites were living at 14 Waldeck Road, Ealing. In July 1907 Cyril achieved 8th place out of 23 boys in the Upper Third and in the following year came 11th out of 24 in Middle Fourth. He had a piece of work shown to the headmaster as being especially good.

Cyril left Epsom College in April 1909. The Epsomian noted in his obituary that "He had not a very brilliant career at the College. He was here only a few years as he had to leave before he had risen from the Middle School." The reasons for him having to leave are not known.

In the 1911 census he was living at Hillcrest, Potters Bar with his mother and six year old sister Erica Mildred Ann. He was working as an accountant’s articled clerk. His brother was at St Mary’s School in Harlow and his father was visiting his brother in law and sister in Haywards Heath.

After leaving school Cyril was articled to Lionel Goodricke and worked for his accountancy practice, Goodricke, Cotman, Hooper, Phipps & Co in the City of London, near to the Chartered Accountant’s Hall. He passed the Intermediate Accountancy exam in November 1913 and was on course to take the final exam to become a Chartered Accountant when war broke out

He enlisted with the 5th Battalion City of London Rifles, a Territorial Force based at 130 Bunhill Row. On the declaration of war they were mobilised and moved to Crowborough for final training, before sailing for Le Havre on 4 November 1914. He was amongst the first wave of articled clerks to reach the front. He spent his first winter in the army at Ploegsteert Wood.

His service papers have not survived but some of his letters home have been published in the Accountant.

In his letter published on 12 December 1914 he relates:
"We came back last night from spending 48 hours in the trenches, and 24 hours in the reserve trenches. It was quite the most
"The noise of the shells approaching is the most disturbing. One hears the report of the gun, followed immediately by a sort of whistle of the shell, gradually getting lower in note and getting nearer. Then apparently a slight pause and the explosion."

"I was in the road next the house doing a little digging when the first shell fell. I soon got back to my place in the trench. We were about 150 yards from the German trenches. It was exciting going to and from the trenches, stray bullets whistling about all over the place. On the way back the chap next but one to me had a narrow escape. A bullet entered his pack in the middle of the back, hit his mess-tin inside, passed through it, and was deflected out of the side of the pack."

After his spell in the trenches Cyril was posted to battalion transport driving wagons, transporting rations from the supply columns' drop points to the troops and delivering stores and munitions such as barbed wire, wood and sandbags to a point 800 yards behind the trenches.

The conditions were already proving problematic with Cyril commenting in The Accountant, 6 March 1915 that it would take "a lot of fine weather to dry this puddle of a place up", adding that "I can't myself see an advance taking place just yet, as the transport conditions would be so bad for guns and supplies, but there is no doubt that we are in for a terrific struggle when it becomes fine enough to move. I feel sure [the battle of] Mons, &c., will be nothing to the time coming."

Cyril died on 24 April 1915 aged 20. A fellow articled clerk, Edmund Parker, wrote to The Accountant and reported that a shot killed him and three horses whilst he was taking ammunition to the firing line. The company's position at the time had been at a very exposed point – on the toe of the horse-shoe – which required the transports to go along a road which was subject to frequent shelling for some miles.

This differs from the account in the Epsomian

“He was engaged in transport duty, when as his party was halted in a village, a shell dropped amongst them, He was wounded and though immediately attended, died a few days after. His officer wrote that at all times he distinguished himself by his cheerfulness in unpleasant circumstances. He did his duty nobly and Epsom will ever be proud of him.”

Cyril's principals at the accountancy firm also lamented the loss of an undoubtedly clever accountant who they felt would have done well in the profession.

Cyril was buried Vlamertinghe cemetery near Ypres in Belgium grave I F 17. At the time of his death his parents were still living at Hillcrest Potters Bar Middlesex. His name also appears on the war memorial at Epsom College, on his firm’s Roll of Honour and on the war memorial at Chartered Accountants' Hall

Probate to administer his effects valued at £542 was granted to his father on 2 June 1915.
He was awarded the 1914 star, the British War and Victory medals. His father applied for the clasp for his medals on 25 March 1920.

Sources
Census returns 1901,1911
CWGC
Epsomian
ICAEW Accountants at Arms website, which provided detail of his career and army service
Medal Index card
Parish registers
The Accountant magazine 12 Dec 1914, 6 Mar 1915, obit 12 June 1915

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Whitehouse, Lt.-Col. John Hubert

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Whittingdale, William Laurence

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Henry was born in Cornwall on 26 September 1889 (GRO Ref: Dec 1889 Truro Sc 131), the second son of William Whitworth (1854-1917) and his wife Emily Elizabeth nee Parks. His parents had married in 1886 (GRO Ref: Jun 1886 Truro Sc 215).

In 1891 the infant Henry and his family were living in Church Town, St Agnes, Cornwall. Henry’s father William was 36 years old, and a medical practitioner, who had been born in St Agnes. His mother, Emily, was 34, and his brother William Cuthbert (known as Cuthbert) was 3 years old. There was also a medical assistant living with the family plus a cook and a housemaid.

In 1901 the family was living in Vicarage Road. By this time Henry had another brother, George Augustus aged 7, and his aunt, Margaret Parks, was also living with them. As well as two domestic servants, a governess had joined the household.

In 1911 the family was still living in St Agnes, although Cuthbert was not at home at the time of the census. Henry aged 21 was a registered medical student and George was apprenticed to a mechanical engineer. The house in which they lived was quite substantial having 10 rooms.

Henry followed his brother Cuthbert to Epsom College, joining the first form in the Lower School on 19 Sept 1901 and progressing to Carr House in the Upper School. Whilst at Epsom, he joined the School’s OTC and became a corporal. He had an unexceptional school career until his last year when he peaked at just the right time. He passed the London Matriculation in March 1908 and left Epsom College in July having come top of the Modern Fifth form, winning the form prize and the carpentry prize. He entered Guys Hospital London in Oct 1908 to study medicine. He passed MB BSc in 1911 and the final MRCS and LRCP London in Mar 1914. He then held all the ward appointments and in addition clinical and OPO at the hospital in 1914. He was a keen rugby player and played for Guys 1912-1914.

Henry gained a commission with the RAMC (Special Reserve) in 18 Dec 1914 He joined for service on 4 Jan 1915 and went to France on 8 May 1915 where he was posted to serve with the 26th field ambulance. He was promoted to Captain in June 1915. He was severely wounded during the first battle of the Somme. After recovering, he was on home service until 1918, when he returned to France and was attached to 6 Battalion Kings Own Scottish Borderers (KOSB) as their medical officer. He was awarded the military cross for “marked gallantry and devotion to duty near to Cuerne on 16/17 Oct 1918. In spite of heavy shell fire he showed utter disregard of his personal safety in attending the wounded. Twice his aid post was hit by a shell but he carried on and performed most valuable work in dressing the wounded until he was seriously wounded.” Henry’s family received a telegram on 26 October informing them that he had received a dangerous gunshot wound to his head and he died on 29 October 1918. (There is some confusion on his file as to where he was treated. A telegram later stated CCS 36). He is also remembered on St Agnes, Cornwall war memorial. The Whitworth family has provided medical care in St Agnes for 5 generations. There is a collection of artefacts and photographs in the St Agnes museum. There was a short announcement of his death in the Cornish Telegraph 6 Nov 1918.

Probate was granted to his brothers William Cuthbert Whitworth, surgeon and George Augustus Whitworth mining engineer on 3 April 1919. He left £3263 11s 7d.
The picture of Capt Whitworth MC is reproduced with permission of his family via St Agnes museum, Cornwall. The telegrams are reproduced with permission of The National Archives.

Sources:
BMD Y
Parish Reg
Census Y 91,01,11
CWGC Y
Epsomian Y
Epsomian Reg N
London Gazette Y
Newspaper Cornishman 6 Nov and Edinburgh Gaz 8 Oct 1919 Y
Probate Y
RAMC Profile
Soldiers died
St Agnes Museum Y
Times
TNA file WO 339/21991 Checked-heavily weeded
KOSB war diary No information

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Whitworth, Henry Parks, brother of W. C. W. (1899), b. 1889, c. 1908, Guy's Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Lt. R.A.M.C., d. of wounds 1918

Henry Whitworth

Whitworth in the OTC
The telegram telling Whitworth's family that he had been wounded

The death telegram

Whitworth's 'death penny'. the bronze plaque sent to next-of-kin.

Wight, Lauder Lylestone

Entered Epsom College: 1899

Decorations: M.C.

Birth Year:  

House:  

HMM?  

Wilkinson, Arthur Wilfrid

Birth Year: 1884
Entered Epsom College: 1898
Regiment: T/Capt. W. Yorks Regt., died of wounds 1918

Died 18/04/18 aged 34
Buried Brandhoek, Belgium

Arthur was born in Tynemouth, Northumberland on 6 April 1884, (GRO Ref: June 1884 Tynemouth 10b 218), the son of Auburn Wilkinson and his wife Henrietta nee Featherstone. His parents had married in 1878 (GRO ref: Mar 1878 Tynemouth 10b 241). In the 1891 Census the family was living at 14 Front Street, Tynemouth, the 8 roomed house later referred to as Holly House. Arthur’s father was a 43 year old general medical practitioner and surgeon. His mother was 35. Six year old Arthur had three siblings, Auburn Lawrence aged 10, Ernest Rowland aged 8, and Ethel Noel who was 2. The family employed a cook and a nurse. The 1881 census had shown another daughter, 2 year old Florence. The family was comfortably off as Auburn would leave about £13,000 when he died in 1925. Arthur’s mother died when she was only 38 in 1894.

Arthur followed his brothers to Epsom College, entering the Lower School, Upper III form on 15 Sept 1898. He then progressed into Propert House in the Upper School. He was an unspectacular performer academically coming in the lower half of his forms during his time at Epsom. He left in July 1901.

In the 1901 Census Arthur’s father was 52, a widow and practising medicine. Florence was 22, Auburn a 20 year old medical student, Arthur was 16 and Ethel 12. They were looked after by a housekeeper, maid and a cook. Tragically Arthur’s brother Auburn died of scarlet fever in 1902 which he contracted whilst camping at Aldershot with the University of Durham Corps during Edward VII’s Coronation week.

In the 1911 census the family was still living at Holly House. Auburn was 63 and a medical practitioner. Arthur was 26 and shown as an architect. The Census recorded Arthur’s sister Ethel Noel aged 22, and his aunt Isabella Pattison, aged 74, living with them plus a cook and a housemaid.

Arthur went to France 15 June 1915. Arthur was wounded on 1 July 1916 at Ovillers la Boiselle whilst attached to 2 bn of the West Yorkshire Regiment. He was shot through the lung. For the first few days he was in a critical condition. The bullet had entered just below the inferior angle of his right shoulder blade, traversed his lung and emerged in the mid-axillary line over his rib which was fractured into a number of pieces. The impact also displaced his heart. His wounds suppurated for over a month. He left the casualty clearing station on 4 July and was transported back to Britain. He embarked at Calais on 14 July arriving in Dover on the same day (name of ship not known) and from there was transferred to Mrs Samuelson’s Hospital on 15 July. He was hampered by his breathing difficulties and underwent a number of medical boards to assess his progress. By December 1916 his breathing had improved and he was able to undertake light duties. He was eventually found fit for general service by a medical board on 14 June 1917 and instructed to rejoin his regiment.

OC 17 Field Ambulance BEF reported his death and his father was informed. He was buried Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No 3 Ypres, II 0 10 at the time with the usual wooden cross bearing his full particulars. This has since been replaced with the standard Portland stone headstone.

He was awarded the 1915 Star, British War and victory medals. Probate was granted to his sister Mrs Ethel Noel Morrison, wife of Gordon Morrison, on 25 Oct 1918. He had left a will and his effects were valued at £133 11s 5d.

Sources:
Census 1901
CWGC

Arthur's Prelim Exam Certificate

Arthur's Matric Exam Certificate
Wilkinson, The Rev. Ernest Roland

- Birth Year: 1882
- Entered Epsom College: 1896
- Regiment: T/C.F. 1914-18
- House:
- Rank: Capt
- Decorations:

Willans, William Alan Jeune

- Birth Year: 1896
- Entered Epsom College: 1910
- Regiment: T/Capt. K.R.R.C. Killed in action 1918
- House: G
- Rank: Capt
- Decorations:

Willans, William Alan J

- Died: 24/03/18 aged 21
- Unit: 18th Bn, KRRC
- Buried: Arras Memorial, France
- Reference: Bay 7

Researcher: Liz Manterfield

Epsom College Register 1855-1954
Elizabeth Manterfield

WILLANS William Alan Jeune Temporary Second Lieutenant, later Captain; 18th Bn KRRC
killed in action 24 March 1918

Alan as he was known, was born on 14 April 1896 (GRO ref: June qtr 1896 Bishop's Stortford, 3a 536), the son of Dr William Blundell Williams and his second wife Henrietta Amelia nee Jeune. William was baptised on 20 May in Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.

In the 1901 census 4 year old Alan and his family were living at the Manor House, Much Hadham. His 48 year old father was a physician and surgeon. His mother was 44. He had 5 older siblings, all with the additional name Jeune. Elsie aged 19, Frederic 17, Maxwell 14, Lucy 11, and Norman 9. The family employed 3 servants. (The 1891 census had also shown another sister Eva aged 8 and brother Gordon aged 5). Alan’s father had been born in the Straits Settlements where his father had been Colonial Treasurer of Singapore and his mother had been born in India. This may be why Alan later chose a career with an Indian Merchants.

On 9 November 1906 Alan’s older brother Max died at St John’s, New Brunswick, Canada at the age of just 20. In the 1911 census the family was still living in Much Hadham in a 12 roomed house. Elsie, Lucy and Norman were at home with their parents, and twin sisters had been born: Marguerite and Violet aged 9. The census records that William and Henrietta had had 10 children, 9 of whom were still living. They also employed five servants: a cook, a childrens’ maid, a parlour maid, a housemaid and a kitchen maid.

From 3 May 1910- Easter 1913 Alan was a pupil at Epsom College unlike his four older brothers who were educated at Framlingham. His father registered him and he started in the Middle Fourth form in Granville House. He was awarded a Council Exhibition. In 1911 he came 19th out of 25 boys in Shell form. He had a piece of work presented to the Headmaster as being particularly good. He became a Sub Prefect. In 1912 he was bottom of the Lower Fifth form but he had been absent for the exams. I have not discovered the reason for his absence but suspect it was due to ill health. He also belonged to the Epsom College OTC. He left at Easter 1913 and worked as an Indian Merchants’ clerk.

On 15 Sept 1914, aged 19 years 5 month, he attested for service in the army. A lanky boy with a dark complexion, dark brown eyes and black hair, he was 6ft 1½ins tall in his boots which was above average for the time. He weighed 135lbs 2 oz in his clothes, with a chest measurement of 32ins expanding to 35ins. He had a very good physical development and was fit. He had good, 6/6 eyesight in both eyes. He had been vaccinated at birth. He was Church of England. He gave his father Dr Willans of 2 Woburn Rd, Bedford as his next of kin.

He joined at Bedford and was posted as a Private 1037 initially to the Yeoman Rifles, and then to the 19 Bn (Public Schools) Royal Fusiliers on 15 Sept. He served 149 days at home.

He was gazetted as temporary 2nd Lieutenant on 5 Feb 1915, and formally discharged to a commission on 10 Feb 1915. He joined 10 (Service) bn KRRC Reserve Battalion at the end of Apr 1915. He was posted to Salisbury Plain where he contracted bronchitis. A Medical Board on 22 April 1915 considered that he might have TB and thought they detected a disordered action of his heart and a slight murmur. The Board recommended that he should undertake easy work on home service such as drilling recruits at Skipton. However, due to some administrative mix up, the War Office decided that he should relinquish his commission due to ill health. This was not communicated to Alan and the first he knew of it was when he attempted to cash a cheque which bounced and he was informed that he had not been paid on account of resigning his commission. Alan was appalled at this particularly because he feared it would be viewed that he had been demoted for dishonourable reasons, and fought hard to get the decision overturned.

He questioned the finding of his first medical board on the grounds that he had been examined by very junior doctors and that there had been no subsequent evidence supporting their diagnoses. Also, owing to the short period for which he had served as an officer when the board was held, it had been presumed incorrectly that he had been on the sick list previously. He was re-appointed 22 July 1915 and joined the 14(R) Bn KRRC.

However, there was still the question of his seniority date and back pay. Since the findings of his War Office Medical Board indicated that he should have been retained, he felt he should retain his original seniority date and pay. At first his applications for ante-dated commission were refused. Then his CO at 24 Reserve Bn KRRC supported his grievance and wrote on 18 July 1916 that he was under his command although attached to RFC at Beaulieu Hampshire and that he was a good, hard working and competent officer.

Eventually on 28 Sept 1916 the War Office recognised that his disability was not so severe as considered by the first medical board on 22 April 1915 and that an error had been made. He was reinstated with seniority from his original gazette ie 5 Feb 1915

Meanwhile he had applied for the Royal Flying Corps on 1 May 1916. He had some experience of petrol engines and was interested in aviation and desirous of taking it up. He felt he could be useful as an observer and possibly as a pilot. He had attended a medical board the same day at 2 Northern General hospital, Leeds and been passed as fit.

He was instructed to join RFC School of Instruction at Reading 15 July 1916 for instruction in aviation. He was ordered to rejoin unit attached to No 16 Reserve Sqn RFC at Beaulieu on 10 Sept 1916.
However his ambitions to become a pilot were not to be realised. It was mutually agreed that he lacked confidence when flying and was unlikely to become an efficient pilot. Alan still aspired to serve in the RFC and applied to be an observer but this was not supported and it was recommended that he should return to regular duty with his regiment. On 11 Sept 1916 he was ordered to join 5 Bn at Sheerness and went to France with them on 2 October 1916.

On 8 Mar 1917 he was riding into camp on horseback from Bailleul when his horse slipped on the ice and fell on him, trapping his left leg. He suffered internal disarrangement of this left knee, and subsequently the muscle in the lower part of his left thigh wasted. He was taken to the Canadian Casualty Clearing Station no 2. After 5 weeks he was sent back to his battalion. From there he was sent to Boulogne and crossed to Dover on the Princess Elizabeth on 22 April 1917 from where he was taken to Reading North Officers’ Hospital. The Hospital Medical Board assessed that he would be incapacitated for 6 months

On 16 Aug 1917 a Medical Board found that his muscles had improved considerably and is knee was not causing trouble. They recommended that he had 3 weeks leave before returning to active service.

He was appointed Temporary Captain in 18 Bn KRRC. By this time his father had died (8 April 1915) so his mother was his next of kin. Her address is uncertain as in some correspondence it was given as 2 Woburn Rd but also as number 10. From the dates it appears that they may have moved from 2 to 10.

Alan was killed at Bapaume on 24 Mar 1918 aged 22

He was unmarried and did not leave a will.

At time of death his mother was living at Woodside, London Road, Maidstone in Kent. Alan’s address in the Probate records was given as 10 Woburn Rd, Bedford although the Times obituary states No.2. Administration of his estate was granted to Amy Willans widow. His effects were valued at £235 12s 9d

Alan is remembered Arras Memorial Faubourg-d’Amiens Cemetery Pas de Calais Bay 7

is also remembered on a metal plaque with his father in St Andrew’s church Much Hadham inscribed:

In loving memory of William Blundell Willans, born Sepr 11th 1852 - died April 8th 1915. For forty years doctor in this parish and neighbourhood. Also of his youngest son Alan Jeune Willans captain 18th batt. Kings Royal Rifle Corps killed in action at Bapaume, France. March 24th 1918 aged 21 years.

Sister applied for his British War and Victory medals 16 Feb 1922

Sources
Census return 1891, 1901, 1911
Framlingham School Archives
Free BMD
Great War forum
Probate
TNA WO339/28435

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Willans, William Alan Jeune, s. of dr. W. B. Willans of Much Hadnam, b. 1896, G., l. 1913, T/Capt. K.R.R.C., killed in action 1918

Letter from Willans’s Commanding Officer
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Entered Epsom College</th>
<th>Regiment / House</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Regiment / House</th>
<th>Decorations</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>George Edgar Propert</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>T/Lt. Roy. Fusil. ans S.W.B. 1914-18</td>
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<td>George Litton</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>T/2nd Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1917-18</td>
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<td>Williams, Henry William Davies, s. of R. T. P. Williams, solicitor, of Haverford West</td>
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<td>1884</td>
<td>W., h. XI, I. 1902, solicitor, Capt. (S.R.) The Welch Regt. 1914-18, brother of G. E. P. W. (1904); Cranleigh, Dale Road, Haverfordwest</td>
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<td>Surgt Pilot R.A.F. 1918</td>
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<td>Capt. (S.R.) R.A.M.C. 1916-18</td>
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<td>T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18</td>
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Sir Graham Selby Wilson (1895-1987) [Epsom College 1911-1912. Jenks Memorial Scholarship] has two memorials; his period as Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service of England and Wales (1941-1963), and the famous four volume textbook, The Principles of Bacteriology and Immunity, written jointly with Professor W. C. Topley. This textbook is known and respected around the world, and for most microbiologists it is the first word on any subject on which they seek information. It is said that if any book can claim to be the 'bacteriologists' bible,' this was it.

Graham Wilson was the son of R. G. W. Wilson, a miller of Sutton, Surrey. He came from a non-medical family and after Epsom College, where he was a prominent batsman in the Cricket XI, he entered King's College, London and Charing Cross Hospital, where he won the Governor's Clinical Gold Medal, the University of London Gold Medal, and the Travers, Pereira, and Green Prizes. He qualified M.B., B.S. in 1916, and proceeded M.D. (Lond.) in 1919. His medical training was shortened on account of the onset of the First World War and during the period 1916-1918 he joined the R.A.M.C., serving first in the Enteric Laboratory at Kasauli, India, and then at the Royal Army Medical College, London. In 1920 he returned to Charing Cross Hospital where he joined Dr W. H. Topley in his studies of the genesis of epidemics. In 1927, he was appointed Professor of Bacteriology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and, in 1940 he was appointed Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service based in Oxford. Wilson then persuaded the health authorities in the Oxford Region to accept active laboratory collaboration in the investigation of epidemics, notably but not exclusively diphtheria. Although the great epidemics expected to sweep the country after the Second World War had not materialised, the Oxford laboratory was designated the P.H.L.S. Centre for epidemiological intelligence.

Graham Wilson was instrumental in developing the phage-typing system for the diagnosis of Staphylococcus aureus infections while he was at Oxford and this system was still in use forty years later. The P.H.L.S. became a permanent feature of the National Health Service in 1948 with Wilson as its Director for the next fifteen years. During that period he presided over a considerable expansion in its size, an even larger increase in its work-load, and a remarkable growth in its scientific activities and prestige. In 1946 the P.H.L.S. comprised some 20 laboratories, most of them small, but under Graham Wilson this number trebled and the scientific value of the Service was unchallenged. Wilson read in manuscript nearly all the scientific papers written by members of the Service and extensively rewrote the worst of these. It was said that his intellectual dominance of the P.H.L.S. could be attributed to his phenomenal knowledge of microbiology and his outstanding ability to formulate logical, clear solutions to the problems of communicable disease. These characters became apparent to all because he was a superb communicator, both orally and in print. The original purpose of the Service was to make possible the detection of bacteriological warfare if it was ever used by providing patterns of infection. The job was made for Wilson and he for it.

Throughout his life Graham Wilson received innumerable honours. He was a Member of Council of the Royal College of Physicians (1938-1940), Reader in Bacteriology, University of London (1927-1930), holder of the William Julius Mickle Fellowship, University of London (1939), Weber-Parkes Prize, Royal College of Physicians (1942), Milroy Lecturer, Royal College of Physicians (1948), Honorary Fellow of the American Public Health Association (1953), Honorary Fellow, Royal Society of Health (1960), Bissitt Hawkins Medal, Royal College of Physicians (1956), Marjorie Stephenson Memorial Prize (1959), Stewart Prize (1960), Buchanan Medal, Royal Society (1967), Harben Gold Medal (1970), Jenner Memorial Medal (1975). He was knighted in 1962, received an honorary LL.D from Glasgow University and, in 1978 he was honoured by election as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

In his obituary notice Sir Graham Wilson was described as probably the most influential British microbiologist of the 20th century. His career extended over 70 years, from his first scientific paper published as a medical student in 1917, to a study of early bacteriologists completed a few weeks before his death. In addition, he was a pioneer in the postgraduate education of medical
microbiologists, an exemplar of good scientific writing and the main architect of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Wilson, Lorton Alexander

Born: 1879

Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Decorations: C.B.E.

House: Birth Year: HMM? Rank

Researcher: Epsom College Register 1855-1954

f Wilson, Lorton Alexander, s. of dr. J. F. Wilson of Barrow-in-Furness, b. 1879, F., l. 1896, Owen’s Coll., Manch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Capt. R.A.M.C. (T.A.); 21 Brambles Road, Burnham-on-Sea.

Wilson, Ralph Darrell

Born: 1892

Regiment: Lt. R.N.V.R. 1914-18

Decorations: C.B.E.

House: Birth Year: HMM? Rank

Researcher: Epsom College Register 1855-1954


Wilson, Ronald Walton

Born: 1890

Regiment: RAMC att. Seaforth Highlanders

Decorations: 

House: Birth Year: HMM? Rank Lieut

Died 12/07/1916

Unit RAMC att. Seaforth Highlanders

Buried Bertrancourt


Researcher: Elizabeth Manterfield

ELIZABETH MANTERFIELD

WILSON Walton Ronald, Lieutenant, Royal Army Medical Corps, MO attached to 2nd Bn Seaforth Highlanders

12 July 1916 DOW

Walton was born in Forest Hill, East London on 28 August 1890 (GRO Ref: Dec 1890 Lewisham 1d 1058) the only child of Dr. William Wilson and Jane Alice nee Walton, his wife. Walton’s parents had married in 1888. He was baptised at Christ Church with St Paul, Forest Hill on 28 September 1890. His father’s profession was stated as surgeon.

In the 1891 census the family was living at 216 Stanstead Road, Forest Hill. William was a 35 year old general Medical Practitioner, Jane was 37 and Walton was 8 months old. Frederick Walton, Walton’s uncle, was also staying there and the family employed a servant and nurse.

In the 1901 census the family was recorded living at 237 and 239 Stanstead Road. The 1911 census described the house as an 11 roomed property. By then Walton was a 20 year old medical student at Cambridge University.

Walton was a very able boy academically. He joined the Lower Fourth form, in Epsom College’s Propert House on 24 September 1902 having gained an entrance scholarship worth £30. In July 1903 he came fourth in his year of 24 boys and won the Middle School history and divinity prize. In 1904 he won a Junior Scholarship, passing exams in Latin, Greek (or German), French, Maths, Divinity, English history and Geography. He also passed the Oxford and Cambridge Schools examination with a first class pass in arithmetic. He had two pieces of work shown to the headmaster as especially good, and won the class prize, although he came 6th out of 21 boys in his year. In 1906 he passed his Higher School Certificate. In 1907 he came top of his year and won the general knowledge prize. He also had two more pieces of work shown to the Head in both years.

In 1908 he had moved to the Modern side of the Upper School. He won the Engledue essay prize for history and passed the preliminary scientific exams in physics and biology. In his final year he came top, and took a sweep of prizes- the Modern
History prize, the Martin prize given to the best mathematician of the year, the general knowledge prize and won the Haviland exhibition to Cambridge. This was a biennial award of £60 a year for four years to the boy who achieved the best examination results in science. The scholar had to enter Cambridge the October following with the intention of studying medicine. Walton left Epsom College in July 1909 and went up to Emmanuel College, Cambridge where he achieved a third class honours in natural science. He completed his medical studies at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, qualifying in October 1915 having gained his MRCS, and LRCP.

He had been in the OTC at Epsom College and attained certificate A. He became a Sgt in Cambridge OTC. He was an excellent shot having represented Epsom College at Bisley, represented Cambridge several times and was in the winning team of the Universities of Empire match in 1912. He was also an active member of the Lee and Lewisham Rifle Club and was part of the team that won the Astor Cup for Kent.

He obtained a commission in the RAMC and was subsequently attached to the 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders as their Medical Officer. He had been in the Officer Training Corps at school and attained his Certificate A. He was a sergeant in the OTC at Cambridge.

In April 1916 he married Emily Constance Mottershall, at the church of St Bartholomew the Great in London. At the time Walton was living at 57 West Smithfield Street, London and Emily lived at “Castle Mount,” St. Valerie Road, Bournemouth.

Walton died on 12 July 1916 from wounds sustained the previous day. He is buried in Bertrancourt Military Cemetery on the Somme, grave I, H. 14 His CO Lt Col FG Fitzgerald RAMC wrote to Walton’s widow:

“I thought you would like to hear about your husband’s death. I was with him in the trenches the same afternoon and it was in the evening that he was standing outside the Headquarters dugout with Colonel Hopkinson that a shell burst right beside them. The colonel had his coat set on fire and was badly hit. Your husband, who was just beside him, was hit in the head, neck and arm and was quite unconscious till he died the following afternoon about 2.30pm. We buried him in Bertrancourt cemetery this morning. I got the pipers of the Seaforths to play on the way. They played “the Flowers of the Forest” and “Scots wha hae” and all the officers of my unit were there and carried him to the grave.”

Probate was granted to his wife on 29 Sept 1916 to administer his estate valued at £148 18s 3d. His address was recorded as 237 Stanstead Road, Forest Hill.

By the time his death was entered on to CWGC records his widow was living at her home address Castle Mount, St Valerie Road, Bournemouth.

He is remembered in the War Memorial Book in the church of St Saviour, Forest Hill. and Lewisham War Memorial

Source:
Baptismal Register Forest Hill
Census returns 1891, 1901 and 1911
CWGC
Epsom College printed and manuscript registers.
Epsom College Yellow books
Probate
RAMC
The Times 18.7.1916

Wilson, Samuel

Birth Year: 1885
Entered Epsom College: 1900
Regiment: T/Surg. R.N. 1916-18
House: HMM?

Researcher:

Wilson, Capt. Christopher Eric Pleydell

Birth Year: 1897
Entered Epsom College: 1910
Regiment: Capt. I.A.
House: HMM?

Researcher:

Winckworth, Col. Harold Charles

Birth Year: 1878
Entered Epsom College: 1890
Regiment: Col. A.M.S. Desp., Chevalier of the Crown of Italy
House: HMM?

Researcher:

Winckworth, Ronald

Birth Year: 1896
Entered Epsom College: 1896
House: HMM?

Windebank, Stanley

Birth Year: 1898
Entered Epsom College: 1908
Regiment: T/Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1914-18

Windebank, Stanley, s. of P. V. Windebank, builder, of Balham, b. 1898, L.S. and G., i. 1914, Clare Coll., Camb, M.A., occupation unknown, T/Lt. E. Surrey Regt. 1915-18, T/Lt. R.A.P.C. 1941-5

Winsland, Darrell Frank

Birth Year: 1889
Entered Epsom College: 1903
Regiment: T/Capt. R.A.S.C. 1914-19

Winsland, Darrell Frank, s. of F. E. Winsland, tea planter, of Ashstead, b. 1889, W., i. 1906, settler in Kenya, T/Capt. R.A.S.C. 1914-19, brother of N. H. W. (1906); The Oaks, Etchingham, Sussex

Winsland, Noel [Howard]

Birth Year: 1895
Entered Epsom College: 1906

Winsland, Noel [Howard], brother of D. F. W. (1903), b. 1895, W., XI, i. 1912, experimental officer, scientific and industrial research, formerly tea planter in Assam, T/Maj. E. Lancs Regt. and M.G.C. 1914-18; Chisholm, School Road, Heacham

Winter, Brig. Herbert Gregory

Birth Year: 1890
Entered Epsom College: 1904
Regiment: Brig. R.A.M.C.

Winter, Brig. Herbert Gregory Winter, C.B.E., M.C., R.A.M.C. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. 1890-1945

Dr. Charles Gallannaugh
Herbert Gregory Winter (HGW) was born on 17th June 1890 (GRO 02a 404) at The Hollies, Penge Rd, Beckenham in Kent the son of Major Herbert Edmund Winter R.A.M.C. (1862-1933), a surgeon in the Army and his wife Lillie Eliza Attree (1868-1915). A daughter was born in Calcutta, India, Ivy Lilian (1892-1962), who later after her marriage to a steel manufacturer in Rotherham, Alfred R.Habershon, became a JP and was awarded an O.B.E. for her charitable work.

HGW was entered at Epsom College by his father, then at the Station Hospital Cardiff, in 1904 and was placed in the Junior House later moving on to Granville in 1905. He was to have a distinguished career at Epsom starting in the Upper W form in the lower school and in the summer of 1905 was placed 10/18 in the lower IV on the classical side, winning the General Knowledge Prize. In the following year in the upper IV he was 17/21 but excelled at mathematics coming top of 16 boys in the C2 set. In 1907, now in the Shell form his work was commended to the headmaster and in June he passed his London matriculation 1st Class. By 1909 he had moved into the Upper School in the Modern V1 coming 4/17, winning the Watts Prize for science and becoming the London Hospitals’ Scholar. He passed the 1st MB examination, captained the rugger XV, distinguished himself in fencing with the sabre as the College representative at Aldershot and was made a sub-prefect leaving the College in July 1909 to study medicine at the London Hospital.

Whilst studying in London he lodged with his grandmother Mary Jane Winter (1828-1916) in Lewisham and is recorded there in the 1911 census. In 1912 he married Daisy F. A. Smith at Aston, Warwickshire and after the war they were to have one son, Peter Lawrence W. He was born in Cairo on 9 Sept. 1923 and went to Epsom College in 1937 entering Carr House. He became a member of the rugger XV like his father, leaving in 1940 to serve as a T/Captain, Royal Marine Commando from 1940-45. He died in Palma, Mallorca in 2008.

In due course HGW qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P and the 1914 Army List records him as a Lt RAMC with seniority from 31 July 1914 (LG 28878 p6677). That year he was attached to the 2nd Battalion Alexandra Princess of Wales’s Own Yorkshire Regiment (sometimes known as the Yorkshire Regt. and later The Green Howards).

His name is recorded on the Green Howards Roll of Officers who went to France with the BEF in 1914 and took part in the 1st Battle of Ypres where they suffered heavy casualties including loss of their Lieut. Colonel, C.A.C. King. From Sept 1914 the battalion was with the 21st Brigade of the 7th Division under General Capper and disembarked at Zeebrugge on 5th of October 1914. On the 14th October the 7th Division marched into Ypres moving down towards Menin on Monday 19th October with the French cavalry attacking Rouler on their left flank. Very heavy fighting took place over the next 11 days, with the Royal Navy bombarding the German lines from the coast to assist the infantry and eventually it was decided by the Belgians to carry out controlled flooding of the area by opening the sluice gates of the Ypres and Comte canals to flood the low lying land. For a while the small town of Dixmude held out until a final assault on the 10th of November by the German XX11 Reserve Corps took the town. Thereafter, to quote Palmer, “for three and a half years a muddy, yellow or green moat over 20 miles long and from two to a half miles wide separated the opposing armies”.

The war diary of the 2nd Battalion Green Howards is held by the Regimental Museum in Richmond, N. Yorkshire and I am grateful to Steve Erskine of the museum for sending me information held there. The Battalion War Diary for 30th October 1914 records “Lieut. Winter RAMC (our Medical Officer) was last seen on the afternoon of this date attending to 2nd Lt. R.H. Middleditch ----”. Fortunately HGW survived the battle and in due course it became clear that he had been taken prisoner “avec l’Hopital anglais et 100 hommes près de Dixmude le 16.11.14”. The College Register for 1855-1924 also mentions that he was wounded at this time but further detail has not been found. The Red Cross reported his capture to his uncle (see picture), Major Frederic John Winter R.A. (1860-1932) of Canok Lodge, Walton by Clevedon in Somerset possibly because HGW’s parents were at that time in India where his mother died in 1915. The painting depicted below by the Italian born war artist Fortunino Matania was commissioned by the Green Howards Regiment in 1923 and depicts the post battle scene at the Menin cross roads in 1914. It is said that a copy of the picture was seen on the wall of Hitler’s study at the Berghof by Neville Chamberlain when he visited the German Chancellor there in 1938, although the reason it was there it seems had more to do with Nazi propaganda than art.
In March 1915 whilst still a POW he was promoted from Lt. to Captain (LG 29115 p3097) and on 1 June was mentioned in despatches (MID) by Field Marshall Sir John French (LG 29200 p6007). On 22 June 1915 the announcement that he had been awarded the Military Cross was made in the Birthday Honours (LG 29202 p6126) and shortly after this on 29th June he was repatriated to the UK. In due course he received the 1914 Star with clasp & roses together with the British War Medal and Victory Medal for his service in The Great War.

It appears from his medal record that after repatriation he spent some time on home posting at Portsmouth. After the war he remained in the R.A.M.C. much of his service from then on being spent abroad in India and during WW2 in Burma. In July 1920 he was promoted to A/Major (LG 32151 p12027) before departing for Egypt in 1921 where he was stationed at Helmhich Camp. The Army Lists record his service after WW1. In 1923 his son Peter was born in Cairo and then it seems the family moved to India. In 1933 he was in Barrackpur as a Major, back dated to July 1926 (AL). In 1935 he was promoted to Lt/Colonel in Rawalpindi (AL) and from 1936-39 he was a dermatology specialist in the military hospital at Barian becoming Commanding Officer, British Military Hospital, Lahore in 1939. In 1941 he moved to the staff as ADMS at GHQ India and was promoted to Colonel.

In 1942 following the invasion of Burma by the Japanese, XV Indian Corps was formed to defend Bengal with its HQ at Barrackpur. HGW was appointed Deputy Director of Medical Services (DDMS) XV Corps, and in 1944 became DDMS 14th Army. The British 14th Army and XV Corps played a significant role in 1944-45 in the Burma campaign, which drove the Japanese out of Burma. In July 1945 HGW, now a T/Brigadier and ADMS 21st Area, was mentioned in despatches for his service in the campaign (LG 37184 p3746) and in 1946 was made C.B.E. “in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Burma” (LG 37433 p493). For his service in WW2 he received the 1939-45 War Medal and Star and the Burma Star.

However the gallant service he had given his country in the Great War, when he may have been wounded, and in World War II clearly took its toll of his health and on 31 August 1948 he retired on grounds of disability and was granted the honorary rank of Brigadier (LG 38392 p4765). He moved to Somerset where his family had lived before but died not long after in Musgrave Park Hospital in Taunton on 31 March 1949 aged 59.

Sources:

1 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
2 Ancestry
3 UK Army Lists: Forces War Records. (AL in text)
4 Medal Roll Index
7 International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): Great War POW archive.
8 The Generals of WW2. webmaster@generals.dk
9 Wikipedia
London Gazette (LG)
Wise, Cuthbert Walter

Entered Epsom College: 1896


Rank

Decorations: M.C., O.B.E.

House: HMM?

Researcher: Dr. Charles Gallannaugh
Major Cuthbert Walter Wise, O.B.E., M.C.
1884 – 1959

Cuthbert Walter Wise (CWW) was born on 16 April 1884 in Streatham, the son of Walter William Wise (1856-1931) and his wife Edith Cartner (1859-nk), who was born in Calcutta, India. In 1911 Walter William was working in the Principal Dividend Office of the Bank of England and the family were living at Lindfield, Sussex. He and his wife had married in 1882 and raised five children, a daughter Winifred born in 1883 being their firstborn followed by four sons of whom Cuthbert was the eldest.

His father, then living at St. Margarets, Grange Road, Sutton, entered him at Epsom College in 1896 and CWW won a College Exhibition that year entering Carr House in the Upper IV form. At the end of his first year he was 11th in a class of 23 boys. Next year in the Middle School on the classical side he was 13th of 25 and then in the lower Vth in 1899 he passed the Oxford and Cambridge Lower School Certificate examination and then his Higher School Certificate the following year. He left at the end of the Easter Term in 1901 to start work at the Bank of England. 1

It appears that he entered the Territorial Force soon after leaving school joining the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Queen’s (Royal West Sussex Regiment) and in February 1903 was promoted from 2/Lt. to Lt (LG 27521 p685). In March 1907 after further promotion it was noted that “Capt. Cuthbert Walter Wise is borne as supernumerary whilst doing duty with the Army Service Corps (ASC) Coy. of the Sussex and Kent Volunteer Infantry Brigade” (LG 28016 p2816). In April 1908 he was transferred from the volunteer brigade to the 1/4 Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment)4 with the rank of captain which he had held in the volunteer force (LG 28181 p7025) and there he became the regimental instructor of musketry. 3

The 1911 census has him working as a clerk in the Bank of England.2

The 1/4 Royal West Surrey Regt., a territorial unit, was part of the Surrey Brigade of the 44th Home Counties Division.3 The regiment was stationed at Croydon, the men of the division being drawn mainly from the south eastern home Counties and it was ordered to mobilise for war on the 4th August 1914. It embarked at Southampton for India in late October 1914 arriving at Bombay at the beginning of December. However it appears that CWW may have been sent as part of an advance party as he had arrived in India on 29 August 1914.4 On arrival at Bombay the Division was dispersed to various stations in India and Burma, the aim being to relieve regular troops involved abroad on garrison duties, for service in front line areas in France and Flanders. However many drafts were made to reinforce casualties as they occurred in the front line and it seems that CWW returned to England in 1915 to rejoin the A.S.C. He was then seconded for service in the A.S.C. special reserve with the Royal Flying Corps (RFC).

In September 1915 Bulgaria had joined Germany and Austria and attacked Serbia in an attempt to open a direct route to Constantinople. Greece had initially agreed to stand by Serbia but then reneged on its promise leaving a French and British force which had landed to support the Serbs at Salonika, the only port of access to land-locked Serbia, effectively isolated.7

On 21 March 2016 CWW embarked on the ship Minnetonka at Devonport with other members of 644 Company MT A.S.C. the ship being scheduled to call at Gibraltar, Malta and Egypt.4 After evacuation of the last troops from the Gallipoli peninsula the Egyptian Expeditionary Force had been set up in March 1916 and in July the 20th Wing RFC was formed at Aboukir in Egypt to be known as 20th (Reserve) Wing RFC in the Middle East Brigade. Soldiers who served in this unit were often referred to as part of the ‘Special Reserve’ possibly to distinguish them as ASC soldiers working with the RFC. In October 1916 an RFC training school was set up at Aboukir and CWW was attached to it for instruction before leaving for Salonika. On 10 November 2016 he became adjutant of 16th Wing RFC with the rank of T/Capt. (LG 29922 p1028).5

A typescript of the war diary of 16th Wing RFC is held at the Royal Air Force Museum at Hendon and this very detailed record gives information about the day to day activity of the Wing in the Macedonian campaign. CWW as Wing Adjutant may well have written much, if not all, of the content. Much of what is written below is based on this record.9

The 16th Wing encompassed 17, 47 and later 150 Squadrons RFC and 3 Kite Balloon Sections, 17, 26 and 27, which made up the Salonika Balloon Company.8 An advance party of 17 Squadron left Heliopolis in Egypt on 21 July 1916 and arrived at Salonika on 7 July. It moved to Mikra Bay four miles SE of Salonika “where a good aerodrome had already been selected close to the sea and main road”. Much preliminary
work had to be done before flying could begin and it was not until the 29 July that the first machine left the ground on a short test flight.

“During the month of August (1916) reconnaissance was carried out daily, and nine wireless and six photographic reconnaissance were also undertaken. Very little artillery work was attempted and only one bomb raid is recorded.” The aircraft allocated, initially twelve BE2c’s, two De Havilland Scouts and three Bristol Scouts, were somewhat out-dated as far as combat was concerned particularly when put up against more modern, faster German machines. It was noted that “our pilots were at a great disadvantage owing to the fact that at this time hostile machines were superior in speed, climb, manoeuvring power and armament”. The BE2c aircraft which formed the bulk of their force, was according to Wakefield and Moody “the RFC’s standard reconnaissance machine”, stable but slow. They had been around since 1912 and may perhaps be described as an updated version of the ‘string bag’ from the earliest days of flying. The German air force carried out a great deal of offensive bombing and strafing of airfields and military installations during the campaign and the RFC took many casualties from 1917 onwards. By 1918 however following the arrival of the Sopwith Camel and SE5a fighters the tide was turned and following the amalgamation of the RFC and RNAS to form the Royal Air Force in April 1918 allied air power harassed the enemy increasingly during the closing stages of the Macedonian campaign.

“Oh the 20 Sept 1916, the personnel of Wing headquarters, No. 47 Squadron and No. 17 Balloon Section disembarked at Salonika. On the same day 16th Wing was formed at 110 Rue Raine Olga, within easy reach of GHQ and Salonika Aircraft Park, and Lt Col EWP Dawes, who had arrived from Egypt on 19th August moved to Wing HQ.” The establishment of the small HQ of 16 Wing is of interest. There was an army school of photography at Farnborough and CWW may have spent some time there in 1915 on his return from India although this has not been confirmed. The RFC was still very much part of the army and the modern names for air force ranks had not been introduced. The Commander of the Wing was Lt/Col. G.W.P. Dawes (later awarded the DSO) from the Royal Berkshire Regt. with Capt. CW Wise A.S.C. as his Wing Adjutant with two other captains, one an ‘EO Photography 2nd class’ and another ‘EO Wireless’ who had a 2/Lt. wireless operator (2nd class) working with him. In addition there were two other captains and Capt. Dr J. Vernher A.S.C. who was an interpreter. The initials ‘EO’ appear to refer to ‘experimental officer’ of which there were several grades or classes.

Once preliminary organisation had been carried out Flights of the individual Squadrons moved to areas where they were needed to support ground troops. During December 1916 “many shoots were carried out” bombing enemy trenches and bringing down enemy aircraft. Artillery cooperation and aerial photography also formed a prominent part of the activity.

In April 1917 CWW was mentioned in despatches (MID) by the C.I.C., British Salonika Force Lt-General G.F. Milne, for ‘Services in previous 6 months’ (LG 30196 p7448). On 6 September 1917 he was still a T/Capt. but was referred to as Brigade Major, a staff officer grade (SO2) in the 16th Wing RFC (LG 30376 p11658). With effect from April 1918 he was promoted to T/Major (Squadron Leader today). In April 1918 150 Squadron was formed as a fighting Squadron taking ‘A’ Flight from each of 17 and 47 Squadrons. “The three squadrons of 16th Wing 17, 47 and 150 were at the end of April each composed of two flights, but were later made up to full strength.”

In terms of loss of life and suffering the cost of the campaign was very great. From October 1916 until September 1918 there were 81 British casualties of which 40 men were either killed in action died of wounds or were killed in accidents and a further 41 were wounded by a variety of causes. Twenty three allied aircraft were lost over enemy lines. The enemy lost 102 aircraft, 57 of which were destroyed in combat the remainder being brought down out of control or destroyed by anti-aircraft fire, many of the pilots being killed.

Throughout the diary, which records details of individual actions on a daily basis, there are many references to acts of chivalry which occurred on both sides which give insight into the way these men regarded each other as they battled in the sky over Macedonia. One example of the many recorded incidents perhaps illustrates the respect they held for each other. In 1917 owing to persistent attacks on No 17 Section Balloons an unserviceable balloon was rigged up with explosives in the basket which could be detonated by wires from the ground. “On November 21st at 10.41 hours the balloon was attacked by a hostile aircraft. When close to the basket it was exploded and EA (Enemy Aircraft) broke in half just behind the pilot.”
“As anticipated, documents found on the pilot, who was killed, identified him as Ober Lieut. Von Eschwege, a famous German Aviator. A message was dropped over the enemy lines informing them of the death of the pilot, and the following day an enemy machine came over Monhui and dropped a wreath, flag and a letter addressed to the Royal Flying Corps, Marian, which contained the following message:- “We thank you sincerely for your information regarding our comrade, Lieut. Von Eschwege, and request you to permit the accompanying wreath and flag to be placed upon his last resting place. Deutches Fliegerkommando”.

“The request was carried out”

CWW received significant recognition for his service in Macedonia. He was first mentioned in despatches in 1917 as detailed above. He was then awarded the Military Cross in the New Year’s Honours of 1918 (LG 30450 p50) where his rank was given as “Lieut. (T/Capt.) A.S.C. Special Reserve and RFC”. In April 1918 he received the Croix de Guerre from the President of the French Republic (LG 30638 p4716) and then a year later was again mentioned in despatches by Lieut. General Sir G.F. Milne for distinguished and gallant services with the RAF in Salonika from 1 Oct 1918 – 1 March 1919 (LG 31385 p7231). In June that year he became OBE for his service with the RAF (LG 31378 p7028) and then finally the London Gazette recorded in December 1919 (LG 31703 p15842) the award of the 4th Class Order of the White Eagle with Swords, conferred on the 22nd July 1919 by His Majesty the King of Serbia for services in connection with the War:- Major Cuthbert Walter Wise O.B.E., M.C. (RASC).

After the war he was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal with emblems to signify his being twice mentioned in despatches. He also received the Territorial Force War Medal, an award earned by those who did not at the time serve in a war zone but carried out duties abroad such as garrison duties in India as did CWW with the Royal West Surrey Regiment in 1914.10 He relinquished his commission in May 1919 and retired from the army (LG31698 p15749). In 1920 the address on the medal roll index for delivery of his medals was given as either Viewfield, Brighton Rd., Purley or as an alternative the Bank of England and it is assumed therefore that he returned to his former employer after the war. When his father died in 1931 CWW’s name appeared on the probate record which referred to him as a bank official.2

In March 1918 he had married Minnie Valentia Robinson (1891-1975) in Steyning (GRO 2b 661).2 She died in Eaton Gardens Mansions, Hove, at the address where she and her husband had lived in later life, aged 84. There were no children. Cuthbert Walter Wise died before her at the General Hospital, Hove on 26th September 1959 age 75.

Sources;
1 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books
2 Ancestry
3 Forces War Records
4 TNA. WO 25/3544 Embarkation Returns WW1
5 TNA. AIR 76/557/76: Officers service records.
6 TNA. AIR 1/1297/204/11/140: List of RFC Officers serving overseas.
7 Facing Armageddon by Cecil, H and Liddle, P: Pen & Sword Books Ltd; 2016 P.44
10 Medal Roll Index
LG – London Gazette

Epsom College Register 1855-1954

Witham, Henry Norman

Birth Year: 1899
Entered Epsom College: 1911

Wood, Bertram William Francis

Birth Year: 1887
Entered Epsom College: 1901
Regiment: T/Lt. Nigerian Regt. 1914-18

Wood, Leonard Southerden

Birth Year: 1878
Entered Epsom College: 1892
Regiment: T/2nd Lt. General List 1915-18

Woodhams, Douglas Franklin

Decorations:
Woodhams, Douglas Franklin, s. of William Woodhams, master brewer, of Rochester, b. 1897, L.S., l. 1910, 'sales manager', Lt. (S.R.) Middx Regt. 1914-18; 1 Thornton Grove, Hatch End

Woodroffe, Henry Dobree


Wooldridge, Leonard Gordon

Wooldridge, Leonard Gordon, brother of A. E. S. W. (1906), b. 1894, G., 1, 1911, solicitor, Pte. Royal Fus. 1914-18; Brownlands, Daventry

Wooldridge, Arthur Edward Sprado


Worth, Reginald

Major Reginald Worth O.B.E., R.A.M.C.
Reginald Worth, Reggie as he was always known, was born in Anderton, Cornwall on 8 April 1873, the fourth son of Dr Edwin James Worth (1835-1894) and his wife Jane Grace née Belches (1834-1933). Jane’s father, Cdr. Peter Belches R.N., (1796-1890) was an early explorer and gold prospector in Western Australia. He returned to England in 1858 settling in Cornwall and left a considerable fortune (£5.4m in 2017) when he died, to his daughter and son-in-law, Reggie’s parents.1 Reggie’s three older brothers, Edwin Leonard (1868-1909), Francis James (1870-1916 who died in S. Africa) and Harold Lindsay (1871-1961) all went to the College. His younger brother William Charles born in 1877 went to a boarding school at Compton Gifford, Devon. He had two sisters, Catherine (1876-1886) who died in Cornwall when she was ten and Margaret Campbell (1882-1930).1

Reggie was entered at Epsom College in September 1889 in Granville House by his father2. He began in the Remove Form moving to the Matriculation Form the following year. However he does not appear to have stayed long at the College and left at the end of the Easter term in 1891. From Epsom he went to St. Mary’s Hospital to study medicine qualifying with the conjoint diploma in 1896, taking the M.B., B.S. degree at Durham University in 1901.3 He held posts in 1897 as assistant house surgeon at Cardiff Royal Infirmary when he decided to enter the mental health service. In 1899 he worked as a clinical assistant at the West Riding Asylum in Wakefield during which time he studied at Durham for his degree and then in 1903 was appointed junior assistant medical officer at the Middlesex County Asylum in Wandsworth, later to become Springfield Hospital. In due course he became senior medical officer there and then medical superintendent.3

In May 1915 the Springfield War Hospital opened alongside the Middlesex County Asylum in a building nearby which had been a children’s hospital. The children were moved elsewhere and its 230 beds were taken over by the War Department. Reggie “was invested with the rank of Major” in the R.A.M.C. for the purposes of the war. Male nurses were enlisted in the R.A.M.C. and female nurses taken into the Army Nursing Service. The first patients were “sent on from Netley and elsewhere suffering from shock and nervous complaints, the direct result of their harrowing experience”.4 They were admitted for a limited time and when ready for discharge they were either sent back to the service or invalided out of it permanently. There seems to be little doubt that Reggie was very much ahead of his time regarding recognition and treatment of shell shock and serious mental trauma or neurasthenia as it was then called, at a time when many in the military and indeed society at large, were unwilling to recognise that such injury existed. A comment in his obituary was made “He was a psychiatrist of the old school, who although not preoccupied with diagnostic labels, displayed in his clinical work sound common sense and a penetrating judgement”.3 In the Birthday Honours in 1919 he received the O.B.E. for his work in the war (LG 31377 p6995).

In 1914 he had married Marion C Knight-Robinson (1888-1971) daughter of Godfrey K–Robinson of the 5th Royal Lancers and they had three sons. The eldest, Cdr. Peter Reginald G. Worth D.S.C., R.N. (1917-1981), followed his maternal great-grandfather into the navy and had a distinguished war record. Commanding the frigate HMS Bentinck (K 314), he and others depth charged and sank two U-boats U-774 and U-636 off the Western Approaches in 1945.5 The awards of the D.S.C. were made in September “For distinguished service in HMS Bentinck and Calder in the destruction of two U-boats off the West Coast of Ireland on the 8th and 20th April 1945” (LG 37260 p4524).

Reggie’s second son Lt. John Harold Worth R.N. (1920-1943) tragically died in action while serving on HMS Usurper in 1943. The submarine Usurper left Algiers for the west coast of Corsica on 24th September 1943 and was then ordered to move to the Gulf of Genoa. She failed to return and later a German submarine hunter reported attacking a submarine off Genoa on the 3rd October 1943. As there was no other British submarine known to have been in the area at that time it is believed that this was HMS Usurper.6 Reggie’s youngest son Robert Geoffrey (1922-1946) died from illness and the deaths of his two younger sons shortly after his retirement were devastating blows to him and his family.3

After the Great War he became very well known in the world of mental health. He lectured for some years on psychological medicine at the Westminster Hospital and served on the General Nursing Council. In 1925 he gave evidence to the Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorders where he stated that many people were treated as criminals by the police when they were mentally ill and should be encouraged to seek medical help.4 Such an enlightened view would have been unusual at that time and has resonance...
even today. He was honorary general secretary of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association and was elected president in 1935. He retired from Springfield Hospital in 1939.3

However his work was not yet over. During WW2 he was asked to take over the City of London Hospital at Hartfield, Kent as temporary medical superintendent which he did. Sadly his later years were marred by the loss of his two younger sons and declining health, which left him unable to drive his car and play his favorite game, golf. In his obituary in the BMJ a friend described the man: “Without being hearty, his infectious optimism had a tonic value which far surpassed such therapies as were extant in the early decades of this century. All in all, his leadership was both inspiring and supportive”.

Reggie Worth died at Chichester on 15 November 1954 aged 81 leaving his widow Marion Catherine well provided for. She died in Hampshire near the home of her eldest son in 1971 aged 83.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
2 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
4 Findmypast Newspaper Archive website.
5 National Maritime Museum <collections.rmg.co.uk>
6 www.uboat.net
LG: London Gazette
draft of the Wellington Regiment, his last address before enlistment being recorded as Obingaiti in the military district of Wellington, the Wellington Regiment being drawn from the southern half of the North Island. 1b The New Zealand Military Force had been mobilised on 5 August 1914 raising a force of 8000 men – the NZEF. 3 Their embarkation for overseas service was delayed for a short while by the presence of German cruisers in the Pacific and whilst at sea on route to Egypt they were pleased to hear of the sinking of the light cruiser SMS ‘Emden’ by HMAS Sydney on 9 Nov. 1914. The second reinforcement draft, to which RW was attached, arrived in Egypt on 1 February 1915 where they undertook training at Zeitoun Camp with the Australian Division.

The New Zealand Brigade, part of the New Zealand and Australian Division, was comprised of the Auckland, Canterbury, Otago and Wellington Battalions. They embarked for Gallipoli on 9th April 1915 calling first at Mudros on the island of Lemnos and then landing under fire at Anzac Cove. In May they re-embarked and were taken to Cape Helles where they took part in heavy fighting in the Battle of Krithia. Then from 8-10th of August the Wellington Battalion was almost wiped out in the Battle of Chunuk Bair.

The War diary (pages 301-303) records: “Before dusk the strength of the Battalion was reduced to two officers and about 200 men.” They were relieved by the Otago Battalion but before the hand over the remnants of the Wellington Battalion were all but eliminated. When the Otago Battalion took over the fire trenches “a party of two officers and 47 men were moved down to the Apex”. Both their Colonel and Adjutant were amongst those killed. However it appears the RW was not with the battalion at this time but was among those who were sent as re-enforcements, presumably from Lemnos or Egypt, following this disaster. The war diary records that on 9 September 1915 “Lt Wrightson joined the Battalion” which by now was at Resting Gully, Cheshire Ridge. Five days later “2 officers (Lts Kibblewhite and Wrightson) and 924 other ranks were detailed to remain at Apex and not accompany the Battalion to Mudros where they go with Brigade to rest and reorganise”.

On 8 November 1915 RW and those left behind at Anzac were re-joined by the rest of the Battalion which returned from Mudros with 19 officers and 558 OR’s. They remained fighting at Apex Ridge above Anzac Cove throughout November, until 15 December when they heard “Today information was conveyed to all ranks that the Anzac position was to be evacuated as speedily as possible”. The Battalion left Gallipoli on 20 December arriving at Mudros on 21st on their way to Alexandria. They moved to Moascar Camp near Ismailia on 30th December and “bivouacked in the desert by the side of the railway line”.

By February 1916 it was decided that New Zealand would raise a full division of two brigades. The First Brigade was still made up of the original four battalions, Auckland, Canterbury, Otago and Wellington. To form the 2nd Brigade certain officers and non-commissioned officers were drafted to form the nucleus of the new unit. A certain amount of rivalry appears to have existed at first, between the battle hardened soldiers from Gallipoli and the new reinforcements from New Zealand during training in Egypt, but soon disappeared once the Division arrived in France where the troops had to adapt to the new conditions and terrain.

On 1 March 2016 RW, who had remained with the Wellington Battalion in the 1st Brigade, was promoted to Captain. 1a On 6-7th April 1916 the 1st Btn. embarked on a troopship, HMAS Arcadian for Marseilles where they arrived on 12th managing to avoid enemy submarines in the Mediterranean during the voyage. Soon they entrained for Northern France and on the 9 May the 1st Btn. moved into the front line sector at Estaires. The New Zealand Division was to relieve the 17th Division in front of Armentieres. The 1st Wellington’s replaced the 7th Lincoln’s in the fire trenches on 13th May without incident returning to billets on the 23rd.

In June the New Zealanders experienced heavy shell fire for the first time and then at the beginning of July a successful raiding party was carried out led by Captain A.B.McColl who was then adjutant. Sadly he was killed during the engagement and RW took over as adjutant for the 1st Battalion Wellington Infantry Regiment. Throughout July activity in the sector increased significantly with intense bombardments and gas attacks inevitably leading to casualties. In early July the battalion lost 2 officers and 21 OR’s killed and 3 officers and 88 OR’s wounded with 3 OR’s missing. In mid-August they were withdrawn from Armentieres and entrained for Fricourt to train for their part in the Somme offensive. The fitness of the troops had to be restored after their time in the trenches.

On the 2 September they began a 42 mile march from their billets at Fricourt to Derancourt in the Somme sector. The NZ Division was now part of the 4th Army under command of General Rawlinson and their objective was to take Flers. On 15th September the battalion moved from reserve trenches into the line at Check Trench, north of Montauban and on 26 September orders were issued by RW as adjutant for the attack to take place on the following day. A point of interest at the end of his orders concerned the use of a tank, a weapon which was just coming into use, making its debut in the war on the 15th September.
Wellington Battalion Aug

1975

RW. A daughter was born to them in Edinburgh. She had been married previously and had two daughters at the time of her marriage to R. W. Wrightson. In many awards.

However RW did not take part in Messines as early in May 1917 he and a number of others left the battalion for a 3 months staff course, Lt. Dallinger being appointed Actg/Adjutant during his absence. In the Birthday Honours 1917 RW was awarded the Military Cross (LG 30111 p5487):

“Early in June, Lieut. Colonel C. F. D. Cook, commanding the 1st Battalion, was to receive the D.S.O., while Captain R. W. Wrightson, Adjutant 1st Battalion, Captain F. H. E. Morgan and Lieut. H. Simmonds were awarded the Military Cross.”

RW would have returned to the battalion in late July or early August. The New Zealanders were involved in heavy fighting during August at La Basse Ville where the 2nd Battalion distinguished itself in particular, L/Cpl. Andrews winning their first VC. At the end of August they withdrew to train for the forthcoming Passchendaele offensive which was planned to start at the beginning of October.

“On the 1st October, both 1st and 3rd Battalions marched to Goldfish Chateau and bivouaced in the fields there, -------. On the following day, final details for the attack were completed. That evening, the 1st Battalion relieved 2nd Canterbury in the front line system of posts of the right brigade sub-sector with headquarters at Kansas House. On the way up Capt. R. W. Wrightson and Lieut. G. H. Roach (Adjutant and Signalling Officer respectively) were wounded by shell fire near Wielte Dugout.”

The New Zealanders were in the centre of the attack that day between Gravenstafel and Broodseinde and took heavy losses in appalling weather. After very heavy fighting the Anzacs took their objectives but it appears to have been the end of the war for RW. His injuries were clearly severe and it seems he was evacuated, probably to a base hospital initially on October 7th and during January and February were fighting in and out of the line. For a time they were at Bulford Camp training for the forthcoming Battle of Messines and by 30 April they were near Neuve Eglise.

He obviously returned to his home in Wanganui in the early months of 1918 as on 10 July 1918 he married there Phyllis Carrie “Lass” McKenzie (1890-1943). He and a number of others left the line where they spent the rest of the year recuperating and training. At the beginning of 1917 during a very cold winter they were at Saîly-Sûr-Lys and during January and February were fighting in and out of the line. For a time they were at Bulford Camp training for the forthcoming Battle of Messines and by 30 April they were near Neuve Eglise.

In 1941 he took up arms again and joined the New Zealand Home Guard with the rank of T/Captain dated from 1st August. It seems likely that in view of his extensive experience in the Great War he was promoted to Major and indeed is referred to as T/Major in the College Register. His first wife died in Edinburgh. She had been married previously and had two daughters at the time of her marriage to RW. A daughter was born to them in 1946 but only survived for a day.

Richard Wrightson died at Palmerston North, Manawatu-Wanganui New Zealand on 2 October 1954 aged 63 and is buried there with his wife Ethel who died in Awapuni Hospital, Palmerston North on 24th June 1975 aged 69.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
   1a NZEF Record of Personal Service
   1b New Zealand Army WW1 Nominal Rolls p394
2 Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books.
3 War Diary: NZ Infantry Brigade – Wellington Battalion Aug 1914-Dec 1915. piece 4352. TNA
5 1st Battalion Wellington Infantry Regt: Casualty list; Aug/Nov 1917.
Walter Essex Wynter was born on 5th May 1860 in Brompton, London, a son of Andrew Wynter M.D. (1819-1876) a physician in practice in Chiswick and editor of the British Medical Journal from 1855-1861. He and his wife Mary Betty Bramhall (1836-1910) had six children, two girls and four sons of whom two, Walter and Andrew (1862-1932), went to Epsom College where they were both distinguished scholars.
The two brothers entered the College in 1873 Walter leaving in 1878 and Andrew, two years younger than his brother, in 1881. The college records at this time were limited but both boys clearly became prominent members of the school community. Walter was a sub-prefect and captain of the 2nd XV and won an open scholarship to the Middlesex Hospital.2 Andrew Ellis was a prefect, Captain of the XV, played in the cricket XI and won the MacFarlane cup. In due course Walter became a physician and Lecturer in Medicine on the staff of the Middlesex Hospital with a large London practice in Wimpole Street details of which have been described elsewhere. He qualified as M.R.C.S. in 1883 and became F.R.C.S. in 1885, but he gave up surgery in favour of medicine, took the M.B.(Lond). with honours in 1887, the M.D. in 1888, and became F.R.C.P. in 1897.3

Unlike his brother, who served in both the Cuban and Boer Wars, Walter did not serve in the military until 1908 when he joined the Territorial Force and was attached to the 3rd London General Hospital as a captain in the RAMC being promoted to major in 1912.4 Although he was 54 by the start of the Great War he served throughout although he was clearly too old for service overseas. The 1954 College Register records that he was mentioned in despatches but this is wrong, and may refer to Andrew’s Boer War service, as Walter neither served abroad nor is there a record of such an award in the London Gazette (1914-1920). The Medal Roll index sheet is blank.

The 3rd London General Hospital was established in 1914 when the Royal Victoria Patriotic School in Wandsworth, an orphanage set up after the Crimean War to look after the daughters of former soldiers and sailors who had fought in the Crimea, was requisitioned by the military and quickly converted to a medical and surgical unit for the treatment of war wounded.5 It soon became clear that it was too small for the task and extensive new building was carried out including a temporary railway station built in front to enable easy transfer of wounded men from the south coast. While the building developments were being carried out a section of the hospital was established at the Middlesex Hospital where no doubt Walter Wynter became much involved. Other medical staff were seconded from St Mary’s and University College Hospitals.

He and his brother maintained their interest in Epsom College after the war.3 Andrew Wynter donated his war gratuity to the College “to accumulate at compound interest until it should be sufficient to found a scholarship; to this gift Walter added very considerably”. By the time of Walter’s death in 1945 the fund had reached £1000 (£41,000 in 2017). Walter also served as a member of the College Council.

According to his obituary he “had a strongly built sturdy frame, with a rubicund and cheerful countenance, and was a man of boundless energy”. He was a man with a most amiable and cheerful disposition it was said and he was a keen angler. A friend, Surg. Rear-Adml. Gordon Gordon-Taylor wrote: “Wynter will long be remembered by his contemporaries and pupils for his unvarying kindness and charm; he had a most lovable nature and could not have had an enemy in the world”.3

He spent his retirement years at his home Bartholomew Manor in Newbury Berkshire, an ancient building which he had restored, but his later years were marred by poor health. His wife Ada Margaret née Wills, who he married in 1896, predeceased him in 1937 and after his death on 24th October 1945 in Newbury Hospital he was buried beside her in Newtown Road Cemetery in Newbury. They had no children.

Sources:
1 Ancestry
2 Epsom College Register 1855-1905 and 1855-1954
3 British Medical Journal: 20 January 1945
4 Forces War Records
5 www.1914-1918.net Lost Hospitals of London

Charles S Gallannaugh November 2017
Yelf, John Burnet

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Researcher:

Yelf, John Burnet, s. of dr. L. K. Yelf of Moreton-in-Marsh, b. 1870, G., 181886, St. Mary's Hosp., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T/Capt. R.A.M.C., d. 1926

York-Moore, Wilfred

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<th>Rank:</th>
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</table>

Researcher:

York-Moore, Wilfred, s. of dr. Y. T. G. Moore of Lewisham Hill, b. 1894, L.S. and G., l. 1910, accountant, T/Lt. Welch Regt. 1914-18; Oxenden House, Ford, near Canterbury
Young, Eric William

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: T/Lt. R.E. 19154-18

Young, Francis Brett

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1895
Regiment: T/Maj. R.A.M.C. 1914-18

Young, Maj. Charles Owen James

Birth Year: Entered Epsom College: 1907
Regiment: Maj. R.A.M.C. desp.

FRANCIS BRETT YOUNG (1884-1954). M.B., Ch. B., D.Litt. (Birmingham) [Epsom College 1895-1901 Rosebery Prize for English Literature] was the son of Dr T. B. Young, of Halesowen, West Midlands. He won the Sands Cox Scholarship to Birmingham University. Francis Brett Young was one of England's greatest regional novelists. He wrote thirty novels, four collections of short stories and three volumes of poetry. His novels, My Brother Jonathan, Portrait of Clare, and The Young Physician became best sellers. Francis Brett Young's experiences at Epsom are closely paralleled by those of Edwin Ingleby in The Young Physician and in Wistanlow (published posthumously in 1956). Writing to the Headmaster of Epsom College, Henry Franklin, in 1951, Francis Brett Young remembered his time at the College. “I left the school with a love for Latin and Greek, which I owed entirely to the inspiration of Hart-Smith. I did, indeed, know a great deal of Sophocles, Euripides and Aeschylus by heart, together with a mass of Virgil and Catullus besides having saturated myself with English poetry.” When the eminent surgeon, Jordan Lloyd, considered sending his son to Epsom, he sought Brett Young's advice. “Is Epsom a good school?” says he. “The best in England,” I reply, “but don’t send a delicate boy there – it’s a rough place.” And so it was, by Jove, in my day.”

During the First World War he served as a Major in the R.A.M.C. in East Africa and Egypt, and after a period of general practice in Brixham, Devon, he abandoned his medical career, and in 1919 removed to Capri, where he began a series of novels with a Midlands setting. In 1945 he moved again, this time to South Africa, where he settled at Montagu in the Lesser Karoo. Sir John Squire, discussing the many aspects of Francis Brett Young’s art in an article of literary criticism written many years ago, made a statement that is clearly not without importance. “There is no living English novelist worth more to his credit. He is a poet with a sense of fact, a feeling for history and an interest in character; the combination is rare. He is also a doctor and doctors know a great deal.” Francis Brett Young died on March 28th, 1954 and his ashes are interred in the north transept of Worcester Cathedral.

Major Charles Owen James Young, M.C., R.A.M.C.
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.
1894-1930
Charles O.J. Young (COJ) was born in Belgaum, Bombay, India on 16 February 1894, son of Colonel Charles Augustus Young C.B., C.M.G. (1863-1944) an Irish military surgeon and his wife Rose Julia. Colonel Young had qualified in Dublin in 1886 and then served in the Army Medical Service which in 1898 became the Royal Army Medical Corps. He went to France with the B.E.F in August 1914 to serve at the 8th Stationary Hospital at Wimereux.5 Both father and son served with distinction in the R.A.M.C. in the Great War.

In May 1907 COJ’s father, then a Major stationed in the Military Hospital, Belfast, entered him and his brother Eric William (1896-1987) at Epsom and both boys went into the lower school and Carr.2 In 1908 COJ was in the Middle Π form on the modern side coming 9/19 boys at the end of the year. In Middle 1 next year he was top of the form in a class of 21 and won the form prize. He became a prefect before he left the College at the end of the Easter term in 1911. That same year he passed the entrance examination for Trinity College, Dublin and went there to read medicine. He joined the University OTC and worked for a short while at Derry Infirmary. He was entered in the Medical Register on July 3rd 1916 M.B., B.Ch., (U. Dublin).

He was commissioned in the R.A.M.C. on 1 July 1916 and on 12 September he went to France with the Special Reserve R.A.M.C. 4. The Special Reserve received 6 months initial training and then went out to reinforce the regular battalions in service and were similar to Territorials. He joined No 12 Stationary Hospital which had moved from Rouen in May 1916 to St Pol approximately 20 miles west of Arras just before the Somme offensive. The tents and huts which they had occupied on the racecourse at Rouen by the BEF were taken over by the Australians. Rouen was a major centre for the evacuation of troops from the front who were brought there by train, ambulance or on occasions by barge down the river Somme. No.12 Stationary Hospital was attached to No 18 General Hospital B.E.F. after moving to the Pas de Calais.

He soon distinguished himself at the front and on the 18 June 1917 it was announced that he had been awarded the Military Cross (LG 30135 p6001):-


For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He went out under heavy shell fire and attended several wounded men in the open. He has on previous occasions shown fine disregard of personal danger in the face of heavy fire.”

He stayed very much in the front line with 12 Stationary Hospital and was mentioned in despatches (LG 31088 p15209). Haig’s despatch published 27 Dec 1918 dealt with the fierce fighting which took place in early 1918 after the Cambrai offensive at the end of 1917. The battles which raged along the Somme and Lys where Ludendorff made his final unsuccessful attempts to reach the Channel ports were particularly fierce. His father now a Colonel on the Staff was also mentioned in the same despatch (LG 31088 p15206).

COJ remained in the R.A.M.C. after the war and served with the Indian Army in Iraq in 19204. In 1923 he received the B.W.M. and V.M. with emblems reflecting his mention in despatches and in 1925 he was issued with the Indian General Service Medal with Iraq clasp5 which was sent to him C/O Messrs Grindley & Co. Bombay.

In 1923 at Windsor in Berkshire he married Phyllis Fenwick Wilson (1894- ) the daughter of a Northumberland solicitor (GRO 2c 749). Phyllis had served as a V.A.D. in the Q.A.I.M.N.S. in France from July 1917 until April 19195 and in due course also received the B.W.M. and V.M. No doubt they met during their war service. There were no children of the marriage. The London Electoral Register for 1929 has them both listed as living at 7 Everest Road, Etham1 but by 1930 he was stationed in Singapore with the rank of Major. Very sadly however on 20 July 1930 he died suddenly in Kuala Lumpur Hospital from cerebral malaria aged 36.1 His estate was left to Eric William Young, an electrical engineer, possibly an uncle, but it has not been possible to confirm the relationship.6

Sources:
1Ancestry
2Epsom College Registers and Yellow Books
3 Daily Express ; 30 June 1911; p7 www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk
4 Forces War Records
5 Medal Roll Index
6 Ancestry – Probate records.
GRO – General Registry Office
LG – London Gazette
Mfg. Charles Owen James, M.C., R.A.M.C., s. of Col. C. A. Young, C.B., C.M.G., of Belfast, b. 1894, L.S. and C., prefect, l. 1911, Trin. Coll., Dublin, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., desp., d. at Kuala Lumpur 1930