

WW1: HOW CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND CONTRIBUTED TO THE ALLIED CAUSE

Canada, Australia and New Zealand were self-governing divisions of the British Empire, the so called 'Dominions'. Over a million men from the Dominions and 1.5 million from India enlisted in the forces of the empire. There were also huge contributions of food, money, and munitions. Canada sent 37,500 horses and mules in addition to their young men.

Farming was the most important activity in south east Surrey prior to the First World War and the agricultural depression of the last quarter of the nineteenth century brought poverty to many. Schools actively encouraged young boys to emigrate, rather than face unemployment. At first most went to Australia but at the turn of the 20th century the majority went to Canada because the passage was cheaper.

Several young men emigrated from the local villages to the Dominions in the decade before the First World War. In 1914 many enlisted in their adoptive countries to serve with the Allied Forces. Their families at home in England proudly recorded their names on the Rolls of Honour in Lingfield Church and Dormansland Memorial Hall. The men who died are remembered on all four village war memorials. Details of a few of those men are below.

AUSTRALIA

SAMUEL THOMAS FULLER lived at Newtown, Lingfield with his parents Walter and Isabella Fuller. He emigrated to Australia sometime in the early 1900s, where he was employed as a Farm Station hand. Samuel enlisted as a Driver, in H Field Company, Engineers, Australian Imperial Force.

Samuel Fuller went to the Western Front in November 1916 where he served as a Pack Driver. He apparently suffered poor health in France in 1918 and was hospitalised; this may have been due to Spanish Flu.

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Samuel was granted Leave in Lingfield with full pay and subsistence from 20.5 19 to 19.9.19. The reason for the leave is recorded in his military record, 'Motor Mechanic attending T.K. Morris, High Street, Lingfield. This was probably Thomas King Morris, cycle maker and dealer (Kelly's Directory 1911). Why this was considered important enough to warrant full paid leave, we can only ponder.

THOMAS GILES PAUL, was the son of Giles and Alice Paul of Sugham Farm, Common Road, Lingfield. In 1911 he was a Joint Manager of a House Furnisher and Removal Contractor in England but decided to study theology instead. He emigrated to Australia before completing his studies. In August 1914 Thomas Paul enlisted as a Private in 6th Battalion, Melbourne Regiment. He embarked with the regiment on 19th October 1914 for the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, part of the ANZAC force (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps). They first stopped in Egypt where the regiment and other ANZAC regiments underwent intensive training. In Gallipoli Thomas received several field promotions.

Following service in Gallipoli he was transferred to the Australian Army Medical Corps attached to his battalion and sailed to the Western Front. He arrived in France in March 1916, was promoted to Lieutenant in July, further promoted to the rank of Captain in October 1918 and in January 1919 was awarded the Military Cross for outstanding bravery.

In 1919 Captain Paul was granted leave to continue his studies at Milton College, Oxford. He returned to Australia in 1920. His name is recorded on the Roll of Honour in Lingfield Church.



Thomas Giles Paul. Photograph taken 1 July 1917.

CHARLTON HOGARTH PROCTER was born in Australia in 1891, his mother died when her children were young. His father, Henry James Procter, remarried and chose to

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return to his native England. Henry and his new young wife, Elizabeth, came to live at The Gables, Felcourt.

Charlton Procter was a Station Overseer of a cattle farm in Brisbane. On 9th September 1914 he enlisted in the 11th Battalion, 3rd Infantry Brigade of the Australian Imperial Force. Private Procter was promoted to Lance Corporal 3 weeks later. The 3rd Brigade was the covering force for the ANZAC landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula of Turkey; the attack began at around 4:30 a.m. on 25th April 1915. The brigade went ashore amidst heavy bombardment. Ten days after the landing, a company from the 11th Battalion mounted the AIF's first raid of the war against Turkish positions at Gaba Tepe. Subsequently, the battalion was heavily involved in defending the front line of the Anzac beachhead.

Charlton Procter was rapidly promoted through the ranks; he was made 2nd Lieutenant with effect 1st July 1915. In August his battalion made preparatory attacks at the southern end of the Anzac position before the battle of Lone Pine.

Charlton Hogarth Procter was killed in action 5th August 1915 and was buried in Shell Green Cemetery, Gallipoli Peninsula, almost 1,150 yards south of Anzac Cove. His name is recorded on the Lingfield War Memorial.

His personal effects were sent in a brown paper parcel to his father Henry James Procter, The Gables, Lingfield: 1 identity disc, a silver watch and chain, a leather purse with 9 coins and a diary.

In the December following his death his name was mentioned in Despatches by Sir Ian Hamilton, Commander of the forces in Gallipoli, his father in Lingfield was informed of the posthumous honour.

The image shows a military attestation paper for Charlton Hogarth Procter. At the top, it is marked 'DECEASED' in blue ink. The title reads 'OFFICER AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES' and '11th BATTALION AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE'. The name 'Procter, Charlton Hogarth' is written in cursive, along with the unit '11th BATTALION' and the date '9/9/14'. The paper contains a series of questions and answers regarding the enlistee's background, including his name, birthplace (Barkham, Victoria), age (22 years 9 months), and next of kin (Lingfield, Surrey, England).

DECEASED

OFFICER AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

11th BATTALION AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 217 Name Procter, Charlton Hogarth
Unit 11th BATTALION
Joined on 9/9/14

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... 1. C.A. Procter
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... 2. In the Parish of Barkham in or near the Town of Barkham in the County of Victoria
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... 3. yes
4. What is your age? ... 4. 22 years 9 months
5. What is your trade or calling? ... 5. Station overseer
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... 6. No
7. Are you married? ... 7. No
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... 8. Father, H.J. Procter, Lingfield, Surrey, England
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... 9. No

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JOHN RIDGEWELL WARREN was born in Chiswick on 31st December 1897. After the break up his parents' marriage, his mother Mrs Emily Warren, moved to 'Nirvana', Dormans Park. Emily was probably employed as housekeeper to Mr Edward Coward, the owner of Nirvana throughout the First World War.

John Ridgewell Warren left for Australia and enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in February 1916. His mother's name was given as next-in-kin.

He was 'wounded in action' in January 1917 (a gun-shot wound to the thumb of his left hand). After treatment at the Field Post he was taken behind the line to the Casualty Clearing Station and then to England where he was admitted to Edmonton Hill Military Hospital.

He left England for Australia in December 1918, after the burial of his English wife Maud May Milburn who he had married three months before, she died from Spanish Flu. Unfortunately he left England without paying the bill from the funeral director, of £7.12s.! Eventually he was discharged from the A.I.F. in March 1919 as medically unfit, due to the gun-shot wound to his thumb.

CANADA

Only 1 in 10 of the Canadian Expeditionary Force had been born in Canada: 65% were English, 15% were Scots & 10% Irish; they all considered themselves Canadian. Many French Canadians opposed participation in a distant British war.

Our Rolls of Honour list 14 men from our local villages who left this country in the early years of the 20th century to begin a new life in Canada, and subsequently volunteered to serve with Canadian forces in the First World War: W. Aird, Frederick Clifford Bawden Allen, Harold Milton Bailey, William Edward Barnaby, Wilfred Brown, Percival Jason Ellis, Arthur Henry Faulkner, Benjamin Thomas Faulkner, Alfred Field, Thomas Hodge, Edmund Rogers Love, George Alfred Marsh, Albert Edward Street, Ernest Edwin Street.

FREDERICK CLIFFORD BAWDEN ALLEN lived in Eastbourne before he sailed on the Empress of Britain from Liverpool on 22 April 1910 for a new life in Canada. He had been working in his father's employ as a Solicitor's Clerk. The Census of 1901 shows the family household.

| | |
|-----|--|
| 428 | Solicitor. B.A. London Univ. ✓ |
| | Wife, Brother, housekeeper, dressmaker, cook, teacher, laundress, & Suffragist |
| 429 | Solicitor's Clerk (expired) ✓ |
| | Solicitor's Articles Clerk ✓ |
| | ✓ |
| | ✓ |
| | ✓ |
| | Cook General (Domestic) 010 |
| | Housemaid (do.) |

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Frederick's parents, Frederick and Lilian Allen, moved to Lingfield after 1911. Lilian was a self-confessed "Wife, Mother, Housekeeper, Dressmaker, Cook, Teacher, Laundress, & Suffragist". We have been unable to find information about her possible political activities in Lingfield but some might emerge in the weeks to come!

Frederick Clifford Bawden Allen had served with 4th Sussex – 2nd Home Counties Brigade, Royal Field Artillery between 1908 and his decision to leave England. He enlisted with the 50th Highlanders of Canada in 1914.

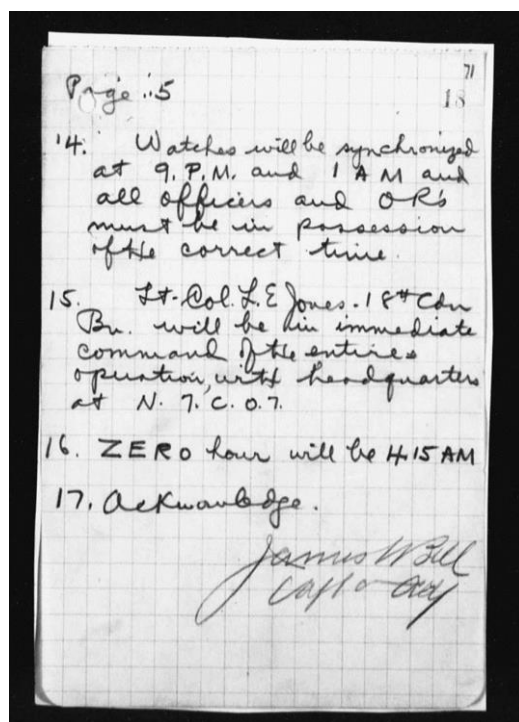
Happily Frederick survived the war, his name is included in the Roll of Honour in Lingfield Church.

WILLIAM EDWARD BARNABY was born in Dormansland on 21st July 1893, the son of Alice Mahon of Ivy House, the Platt. William emigrated to Canada in 1911 on the RMS Hesperian from Liverpool to St John's and made his home in Winnipeg. He lived at the Bell Hotel in Winnipeg and joined the 99th Manitoba Rangers.

William enlisted for military service on 15th December 1915: 18th Bat. Machine Gun Section, 101st Bn. Canadian Infantry. He transferred to 16th Bat. Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regt). His photograph (below) is from the National Library & Archives of Canada.



Barnaby was reported "missing presumed Killed at Hill 70, LENS" on 15th August 1917. On the evening of 14th August the attack commenced with the bombardment of the hill by the Canadian artillery, damaging the trenches and blowing holes in the defensive wire. At 4:25a.m. on August 15th the Canadians went over the top. A page from the Battalion War Diary shows his final hours:



The East Grinstead Observer reported on 8th September 1917: “Mrs Mahon has just received sad intelligence that her son, L/C Barnaby of the Canadian Scottish, was KIA on August 15. He was said to have been buried near where he fell and a cross will be erected to his memory.” [Canadian Scottish is an error]

Like so many other fallen soldiers, his grave was lost in the battlefields. His name is inscribed on the Vimy Memorial.

William Barnaby’s step-brother, Alfred John William Mahon, died on HMS Bulwark on 26th November 1914 when the ship’s magazine exploded whilst loading ammunition.

NEW ZEALAND

ARTHUR FREDERICK SANDERS emigrated to Sydney, Australia. He departed from London for Sydney Australia on 20th Dec. 1910 on the ‘Moravian’. He was the son of Fred. A. & Ellen Sanders of Lingfield. Arthur served with ‘A’ Coy. 3rd Auckland Reg., New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He was killed in the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, during the landing of 25th April, 1915, age 29. He has no known grave; his name is inscribed on the Lone Pine Memorial, Turkey.

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Reference Sources:

Archives new Zealand

Australian National Archives

National Library & Archives of Canada.