

St Peter's Church, Tandridge, WWI Burials



Lt Col Boyd Robert Horsbrugh 1872-1916

Boyd entered the Army in 1893, Commissioned into The Royal Warwickshire Regiment and posted to Ceylon. He transferred to the Army Service Corps in 1895. Saw service in Sierra Leone in 1898-99 taking part in the suppression of the Bai Bureh rebellion. Awarded the Protectorate Expedition Medal with Clasp. In 1899 took part in the Anglo Boer War in South Africa (1899- 1902) He was wounded and invalided to England in 1902. Awarded the Queen's Medal and the Kings Medal with 5 clasps. Promoted to Major in 1908. Retired 1912 and lived at Tandridge Priory. Called up in 1914 to serve with the Army Service Corps.

As a Temporary Lt Col in August 1915 he went to the front commanding a Divisional Train. The Train provided horse-drawn transport for the formation. It usually comprised a small Train Headquarters, one Headquarters Company, three other Horse Transport Companies and a contingent of other troops (known as Army Troops), all of the Army Service Corps. (23 officers, 337 other ranks and 317 Horses, taking up just over a mile of road space.)

During the Battle of Loos (September - October 1915) he received a Mention in Despatches. He was wounded and Invalided home and died the following year after an operation 11 July 1916 aged 44.

Buried at St Peters with full military honours, three volleys were fired and the "Last Post" was sounded.

Note:

The Battle of Loos was the largest engagement during 1915 and the first time Gas was used. 6 Divisions under command of Douglas Haig. Over 59,000 British, Franco and Indian casualties and losses. A German victory.

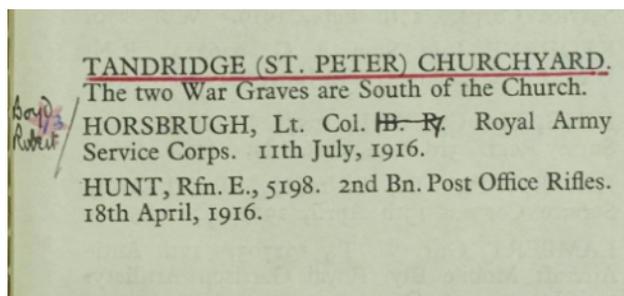
References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boyd_Robert_Horsbrugh#Military_service

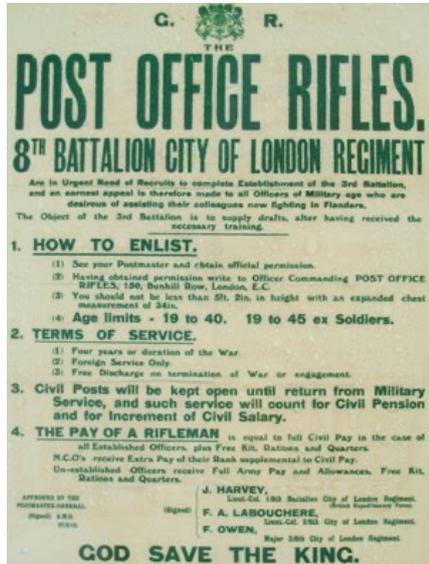
Ref : Horsbrugh, Boyd Robert. *Journal of the South African Ornithologists' Union, 1916, Vol. 11, pp. 153-154.*

S2A3 Biographical Database of southern African Science.

Surrey Mirror Friday 21st July 1916, page 6.



5198 Rifleman Edward Hunt 2/8th Bn Post Office Rifles. (1898 - 1916)



He was the son of Mr and Mrs Hunt, of Rook's Nest Lodge, Godstone road, at the junction of Tandridge Hill road. (Rooks Nest is now Godstone Golf Course) He was about 20 years of age. As a lad he was employed at the Oxted Post Office for some years as telegraph messenger, and in the latter part of 1914 he was transferred to Newhaven, Sussex, as a postman. Whilst serving at the Oxted Post Office, Hunt was a popular young man with the staff, his conduct being excellent, and deep regret was felt at his sad death.

He enlisted in the Post Office Rifles, a unit formed from young men serving with The Post Office. After training in the Eastern Counties. He joined his Battalion the 2nd 8th Londons (The Post Office Rifles) on the Western Front which were engaged in trench warfare. He was home on leave for a few days in early 1916, whilst home he was suffering from a severe cold. Apparently after returning to his regiment his condition became worse and he passed away from pneumonia on the 18th April 1916.

Note:

After the outbreak of war the numbers of recruits was so great that a second Post Office Rifles battalion – the 2nd/8th Londons – was formed in September 1914. Between them the two battalions earned the London Regiment 27 Battle Honours. At the Battle of Wurst Farm Ridge in September 1917, the 2nd/8th lost over half of its fighting strength, dead or wounded, but its men were awarded 40 gallantry medals.

His parents later moved to no2 The Walk in Tandridge (Behind the Barley Mow).

Reference: Surrey Mirror Friday 21st April 1916 page 8.

