

75 YEARS AGO
July 12, 1923

Compton's War Heroes

Battlefield crosses re-erected in the churchyard

Compton was one of the first of the local villages to honour their beloved warriors, and its memorial to the Fallen in the Great War was erected and unveiled as long ago as August 1919. It consists of an imposing stone cross, standing 14 feet in height, on an eight-sided base, and bearing an appropriate inscription, and the names of those to whose imperishable memory it is established. It is erected in the centre of the beautiful garden surrounding the old church, and in itself is encompassed by tombs of many generations of former worshippers. Much care has been bestowed on the churchyard, and flowers such as are to be found in an old-world garden, abound, the whole place presenting a picturesque yet orderly appearance. The Vicar (Rev. C.M.M. Jotcham) and numerous parishioners have been devoted in their labours to preserve the resting-place of the departed. Recently it has been the general desire to re-erect in a convenient position near the War Memorial the actual crosses which had been set up over the graves of the fallen heroes on the battlefields abroad. Three of those simple crosses have already been transferred to this most desirable spot, including two from France and one from Gallipoli. They commemorate the names of Private Goddard, of the 7th Royal Berks, who died on October 18th 1918, just prior to the Armistice; Private A. Carter, 36th Northumberland Fusiliers, who made the supreme sacrifice on June 17th 1918; and Private W. Heath, of the 1st Royal Berks, who died of wounds received in action in France, on May 7th 1917. The front of the crosses immediately face the memorial, which towers high above them. It is hoped to obtain other crosses, but it is stated to be not an easy task to secure them.

100 YEARS AGO
July 7, 1898

Barrack Room Ballads

A Military Smoking Concert

There was another detachment of 1st Royal Dragoons billeted in the town on Thursday night, the A. Squadron, under the command of Major John E. Lindley, marching en route from Woolwich to Salisbury Camp. In consequence of its being market day the squadron was dismissed in the Broadway, and the officers made their headquarters at the Chequers Hotel. A maxim gun was attached to the squadron, and also several wagons of the Army Service Corps. There having been no soldiers billeted in Newbury for more than two years the Society which generally looks after the interests of Tommy Atkins while he is a temporary sojourner amongst us was caught napping on Wednesday when the first troop came through, but on Thursday things were in better order and the usual free tea at the Coffee Tavern was, owing to the exertions of Miss Francklyn, made ready for their reception. About fifty of the men took advantage of the offer and, after enjoying a thoroughly good tea, settled themselves down to an evening's amusement. There was no lack of talent amongst the men to keep the ball rolling. Corporal Farrant took the chair, and as he appeared to know very well what each man could do there was a pretty full programme. Tommy Atkins has ideas of songs and singing of his own, and although he does not despise the beaten track of comic songs when it is a question of choruses, yet when he is called upon for a solo he strikes out a line of his own. It is strange too that certain songs heard nowhere else become popular right through the army. When the troops used to come into Newbury some two or three years ago there was not an entertainment given to them but what one or other sang "The Soldier's Letter".

125 YEARS AGO
July 10, 1873

A CONFESSION

About nine o'clock on Monday night a tramping harness maker, who had that day obtained employment in the town, presented himself at the police station and made the following statement: "I shot a man on the Maidstone Road, about one mile out of Maidstone, on the Ashford Road. I shot him with a walking stick gun; his name turned out to be Fynn; it is five years ago; and the gun went off accidentally as I was getting over a wall. I was after a pheasant. I killed him dead, and according to the papers I see that after the Coroner's Inquest £100 reward was offered against some person or persons unknown. He was a relation of mine; he was a tailor by trade. I have been a soldier, but I have not my discharge with me. I was in the Royal Engineers last stationed at Chatham." As Sergt. Goddard, to whom the statement was made, has reason to believe it was not true, and that it was made under a delusion caused by excessive drinking, he did not detain the man, who declined to give his name, adding that there were important reasons why this should not transpire.

NEWBURY WEEKLY NEWS

9.7.98

SEVENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

The Newbury Weekly News has a column in which items from the paper twenty five, fifty, seventy five, a hundred and one hundred and fifty years ago are high lighted. I am grateful to Margaret Young for having prompted me to not the following, which came from the edition of July 12 1923:

"Compton [the one north of Newbury] was one of the first of the local villages to honour their beloved warriors, and its Memorial to the Fallen in the Great War was erected and unveiled as long ago as August 1919.... Recently it has been the general desire to re-erect in a convenient position near the War Memorial the actual crosses which had been set up over the graves of the fallen heroes on the battlefields abroad. Three of those simple crosses have already been transferred to this most desirable spot. They commemorate the names of Private Goddard, of the 7th Royal Berks, who died on October 18th 1918, just prior to the Armistice; Private A. Carter, 36th Northumberland Fusiliers, who made the supreme sacrifice on June 17th 1918, and Private W.Heath, of the 1st Royal Berks. who died of wounds received in action in France, on May 17th 1917..."

Consulting John Goddard's list of "Goddards who died in the Great War 1914 to 1918" I find that Private Goddard was Charles Freeman Goddard who was born at Speen, near Newbury, son of James and Rose F. Goddard and husband of Elsie Minnie Goddard. He died aged 35 at Salonika.

Others might like to consult John's list for their soldier fathers, grandfathers, cousins, uncles or great uncles. Copies are kept by John in Accrington and Julie at Newbury.



In the same newspaper, under the heading "125 years ago" July 10 1873 another Goddard is mentioned; he was a Sergeant Goddard of the Maidstone police at the time. A man had presented himself at Maidstone police station and confessed in great detail about a murder he claimed to have committed. Sergeant Goddard had concluded that the man was drunk and imagining the incident and sent him on his way.

17.7.98

ODD GODS IN THE LAND OF OZ

A number of Goddards served with British regiments in Australia during the 19th Century.

| Name | Regiment | Period |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Barnaby | 63rd West Sussex Regt | 1827-37 |
| Henry | 12th East Suffolk Regt | 1854-61 |
| James | 18th Royal Irish Regt | 1870-71 |
| James | 48th Northamptonshire Regt | 1817-24 |
| James | 14th West Yorks Regt | 1860-70 |
| James | ditto | ditto |
| James | 12th East Suffolk Regt | 1854-61 |
| James | 3rd East Kent (The Buffs) Regt | 1822-27 |
| John | 65th Yorks North Riding Regt | 1846-49 |
| John | 40th Somerset Regt | 1824-29 |
| John | 11th North Devon Regt | 1845-56 |
| Lewis | 14th West Yorks Regt | 1860-70 |
| Lewis | Royal Hospital Corps | 1869 |
| Samuel | 96th Manchester Regt | 1840-48 |

It may be of use to somebody, sometime, somewhere !

Goddard

he raised at Moorshedabad a battalion of sepoys, called subsequently the 1st battalion 7th regiment Bengal native infantry, which was long known as Goddard's battalion. Before Goddard's battalion could be armed it was ordered, in April 1764, to join the force marching to quell the mutiny at Patna, and in the following year it was sent, together with another native battalion, to Monghyr. In May 1766 Goddard was promoted to the rank of major, and in September 1768 to that of lieutenant-colonel. He took part with his battalion in 1770 at the capture of Burrareah, and was employed in 1772 in expelling the Mahrattas from Rohilkund. In September 1774 he succeeded to the command of the troops stationed at Barhampore in Bengal. Goddard's extant correspondence with Warren Hastings commences at this period, and continues until his departure from India. The governor-general placed the utmost confidence in his ability and tact. Goddard was in command of the troops at Chunar from January 1776 till the following June, when he was appointed chief of the contingent stationed with the nawab vizier of Oude at Lucknow.

GODDARD, THOMAS (*d.* 1783), Indian general, born probably not later than 1740, is said by Jefferies (*Memoir of the Goddards of North Wilts*) to have been of the family of that name at Hartham Park in Wiltshire, and grandson of Thomas Goddard, a canon of Windsor. In 1759 he became a lieutenant in the 84th regiment of infantry, then raised for service in India, at the request of the court of directors of the East India Company, and placed under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Coote [see **COOTE, SIR EYRE**, 1726-1783]. This regiment arrived at Madras on 27 Oct. 1759. Though destined for Bengal it was detained for service in the Madras presidency, and took a principal part in the campaign against the French which ended with the surrender of Pondicherry on 16 Jan. 1761. In the same year Goddard accompanied the 84th to Bengal, and took part in the campaign of 1763, at the end of which the regiment was disbanded, permission being given to the officers and men to enter the company's service. Goddard took advantage of this permission, and went in as captain in October 1763. Early in the following year

When the supreme council determined in 1778 to despatch a force from Bengal to assist the Bombay army against the Mahrattas, Goddard was appointed second in command under Colonel Leslie. The expedition started from Calpee in May, and was delayed by the rains in the neighbourhood of Chatterpore, the capital of Bundelcund, from 3 July to 12 Oct. In that interval a detachment under the command of Goddard took the fortress of Mhow by storm. The supreme council, dissatisfied with Leslie's conduct of the expedition, decided to entrust the chief command to Goddard, but Leslie's death assured him this promotion (3 Oct.) before the orders arrived. Goddard energetically continued the march, and on 1 Dec. reached the banks of the Nerbudda, where he awaited instructions. He had already been employed by the governor-general in a semi-political capacity, and he was now invested with diplomatic powers to secure if possible an alliance with Mudaji Bhonsla, the regent of Berar. The negotiations proved futile, and on 16 Jan. 1779 he resumed his march. The conduct of the expedition increased in difficulty. The control, originally vested in the Bombay authorities, had been resumed by the supreme council, but Goddard's course was necessarily influenced by the fortunes of the Bombay army. For a long time he was left entirely without information from Bombay, and at length received two contradictory despatches, one advising his retreat and the

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DEBT OF HONOUR REGISTER

In Memory of

RONALD GODDARD

Leading Aircraftman
999182
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

who died on
Friday 3 August 1945 .

Cemetery: JAKARTA WAR CEMETERYIndonesia
Grave or Reference Panel 2. E. 7.
Number:

Location: Jakarta (Djakarta) lies on the north-west coast of the island of Java. Djakarta War Cemetery is in the suburb of Menteng Poeloe, 11 kilometres from the city centre and is adjacent to the Netherlands Field of Honour, Jakarta Selatan (South Jakarta). It can be reached by two main roads - Jalan Dr Saharto and Jalan Casablanca. The Cemetery is entered on the northern side by a short flight of steps leading into the Memorial building. The entrance faces the old civilian cemetery where hawkers from the local market often spill out, partly blocking access to the cemetery. The local name for the cemetery is Makam Perang Jakarta.

Historical Information: Jakarta, the capital of the Republic of Indonesia, lies on the administrative capital of the former Netherlands East Indies and was known as Batavia, the name used in the records of the 1939-1945 War. Batavia was the port by which thousands of British and Commonwealth servicemen entered Java in February 1942 from Singapore and Sumatra, shortly before the Japanese invasion of the island. It was defended by Nos. 232 and 605 (Fighter) Squadrons from Tjillitan airfield, a few miles distant. Although greatly outnumbered and dwindling in strength, the fighters remained in action in defence of the capital from 17th-27th February. The 77th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment was also employed in Batavia's defence. On 25th February H.M.S. Exeter, Electra, Encounter and Jupiter and H.M.A.S Perth sailed from Batavia to join the Eastern Striking Force at Sourabaya before meeting the Japanese in the Battle of the Java Sea (see page iv). On 1st March the Japanese landed near Batavia, by the 4th the Dutch had ordered its evacuation, and on the 5th the Japanese occupied the town. Most of the Allied prisoners of war captured in Java were later concentrated in a number of prison camps around Batavia, one of the largest being "Bicycle Camp", so named because it had been the barracks of a Dutch cycle battalion. The camp held among its first prisoners 300 survivors of H.M.A.S. Perth, and 250 soldiers of the 2/15th Punjab Regiment who had fought in Borneo. In 1961 at the request of the Indonesian Government, the Commonwealth dead from the Netherlands Field of Honour at Sourabaya, and from those at Palembang, Medan and Muntok in Sumatra, were brought into the cemetery, which already contained 474 Commonwealth war graves. Additional land was acquired to accommodate all the graves, and the total number of burials was increased to over 1,000. Jakarta War Cemetery therefore contains the graves of many who died in defence of Java and Sumatra during the swift Japanese advance in 1942 and many others who perished afterwards as prisoners of war. Among the dead were sailors who fought in the Battle of the Java Sea, soldiers of "Blackforce" including a number of Australians whose graves lie together in plot 6, and airmen who died in flying battle and airfield defence. The cemetery is entered on its northern side by a short flight of steps leading into a memorial building. Two main grass avenues cross the site, one running

stands at their intersection. The graves of members of the forces of undivided India lie on a terrace in the southern part of the cemetery. Here an Indian Forces monument has been set up; it is a stone pillar crowned by a sculptured wreath and bearing wreaths on two sides, with "INDIA" inscribed below one and "PAKISTAN" below the other. The graves are marked by bronze plaques set in concrete pedestals. The cemetery is covered with turf and planted with many colourful sub-tropical trees and shrubs.

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DEBT OF HONOUR REGISTER

In Memory of

LESLIE MALCOLM BRUCE GODDARD

Corporal

574107

Royal Air Force

who died on

Monday 9 October 1944 . Age 23 .

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Additional Information: | Son of Frederick Herbert and Dorothy Kathleen Goddard, of Shepherd's Bush, London. |
| Cemetery: | SINGAPORE MEMORIALS Singapore |
| Grave or Reference Panel Number: | Column 437. |
| Location: | The Memorial stands in Kranji War Cemetery. Kranji War Cemetery is 22 kilometres north of the city of Singapore, on the north side of Singapore Island overlooking the Straits of Johore. It is just off the Singapore-Johore road (Woodlands road) at milestone 13 1/2 and there is a short approach road from the main road. The Cemetery is known locally as Kranji Memorial, and one must be sure of the address before boarding a taxi as many taxi drivers do not know the Cemetery. There are also bus stops on the main road facing the Cemetery and an MRT terminal is under construction a short distance from the Cemetery. |
| Visiting Information: | Kranji War Cemetery is constructed on a hill with the means of access being via three flights of steps, rising over four metres from the road level. |
| Historical Information: | Before 1939 the Kranji area was a military camp and at the time of the Japanese invasion of Malaya, it was the site of a large ammunition magazine. On 8 February 1942, the Japanese crossed the Johore Straits in strength, landing at the mouth of the Kranji River within two miles of the place where the war cemetery now stands. On the evening of 9 February, they launched an attack between the river and the causeway. During the next few days fierce fighting ensued, in many cases hand to hand, until their greatly superior numbers and air strength necessitated a withdrawal. After the fall of the island, the Japanese established a prisoner of war camp at Kranji and eventually a hospital was organised nearby at Woodlands. After the reoccupation of Singapore, the small cemetery started by the prisoners at Kranji was developed into a permanent war cemetery by the Army Graves Service when it became evident that a larger cemetery at Changi could not remain undisturbed. Changi had been the site of the main prisoner of war camp in Singapore and a large hospital had been set up there by the Australian Infantry Force. In 1946, the graves were moved from Changi to Kranji, as were those from the Buona Vista prisoner of war camp. Many other graves from all parts of the island were transferred to Kranji together with all Second World War graves from Saigon Military Cemetery in French Indo-China (now Vietnam), another site where permanent maintenance could not be assured. The Commission later brought in graves of both World Wars from Bidadari Christian Cemetery, Singapore, where again permanent maintenance was not possible. There are now 4,458 Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War buried or commemorated at KRANJI WAR CEMETERY. More than 850 of the burials are unidentified. The Chinese Memorial in Plot 44 marks a collective grave for 69 Chinese servicemen, all members of the Commonwealth forces, who were killed by the Japanese during the occupation in February 1942. First World War burials and commemorations number 64, including special memorials to |

in Saigon and Singapore, but whose graves could not be located. Within Kranji War Cemetery stands the SINGAPORE MEMORIAL, bearing the names of over 24,000 casualties of the Commonwealth land and air forces who have no known grave. Many of these have no known date of death and are accorded within our records the date or period from when they were known to be missing or captured. The land forces commemorated by the memorial died during the campaigns in Malaya and Indonesia or in subsequent captivity, many of them during the construction of the Burma-Thailand railway, or at sea while being transported into imprisonment elsewhere. The memorial also commemorates airmen who died during operations over the whole of southern and eastern Asia and the surrounding seas and oceans. The SINGAPORE (UNMAINTAINABLE GRAVES) MEMORIAL, which stands at the western end of the Singapore Memorial, commemorates more than 250 casualties who died in campaigns in Singapore and Malaya, whose known graves in civil cemeteries could not be assured maintenance and on religious grounds could not be moved to a war cemetery. The SINGAPORE CREMATION MEMORIAL, which stands immediately behind the Singapore Memorial, commemorates almost 800 casualties, mostly of the Indian forces, whose remains were cremated in accordance with their religious beliefs. The SINGAPORE CIVIL HOSPITAL GRAVE MEMORIAL stands at the eastern end of the Singapore Memorial. During the last hours of the Battle of Singapore, wounded civilians and servicemen taken prisoner by the Japanese were brought to the hospital in their hundreds. The number of fatalities was such that burial in the normal manner was impossible. Before the war, an emergency water tank had been dug in the grounds of the hospital and this was used as a grave for more than 400 civilians and Commonwealth servicemen. After the war, it was decided that as individual identification of the dead would be impossible, the grave should be left undisturbed. The grave was suitably enclosed, consecrated by the Bishop of Singapore, and a cross in memory of all of those buried there was erected over it by the military authorities. The 107 Commonwealth casualties buried in the grave are commemorated on the Singapore Civil Hospital Grave Memorial. Kranji War Cemetery and the Singapore Memorial were designed by Colin St Clair Oakes. Adjoining Kranji War Cemetery is KRANJI MILITARY CEMETERY, a substantial non-world war site of 1,378 burials, created in 1975 when it was found necessary to remove the graves of servicemen and their families from Pasir Panjang and Ulu Pandan cemeteries.

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Unsung heroes of the Royal Air Force; the Far East Prisoners of War, by Les and Pam Stubbs.
Barney Books, 2002 £15 ISBN 1-903272-21-7

Goddards

Leslie Malcom Bruce Goddard

574107-15MU

Held Java, Moluccas (aruku, Ambob).

Died Maros Maru - 9th October 1944.

On the Kranji Memorial

Ronald Goddard

999182 Unit no known

Held Java, Sumatra (Railway)

Died Sumatra Railway 3 August 1945. Buried Jakarta