



Edwin Richard Pope

1894 - 1986

Edwin Richard Pope was born in 1894 in Staplehurst, Kent. He was the son of Henry George and Kate Amelia Pope and was one of seven brothers. He was employed as a School Teacher and worked in Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Edwin joined the 1/1st West Kent Yeomanry in 1912 at the age of 18 where he served as the Bugler (Signalman).

In 1915 the Regiment left Kent for Gallipoli where they served under orders of 42nd (East Lancashire) Division. In 1916 they withdrew from Gallipoli and moved to Mundros, then in February 1916 they moved to Egypt where the Brigade was absorbed into 3rd Dismounted Brigade on Suez Canal defences. During this time Edwin as a Signalman, was given the task of sending messages in Morse Code, a new technology, in which he had little training or experience.

In July 1916 the brigade moved to join the Western Frontier Force. In May 1918 having joined with the East Kent Yeomanry forming the 10th Battalion, The Buffs, they landed in Marseilles and spent the rest of the war on the Western Front.

On the 23rd March 1918 he was wounded in Action but continued to serve, returning home to England in April 1919.

Edwin married Gladys Daniel in Medway Kent in 1924 and is the maternal grandfather of Mandy McTaggart of Winsford. He died in Surrey in October 1986 aged 92.



Edwin Pope, 1914



"As a Bugler Edwin (R), needed a good horse to keep up with the Adjutant. They had to commandeer their own horses from local farms. They were given no notice in 1915 of being sent to Gallipoli. Grandpa spent the first months there in the Jodphurs he was wearing when he left Kent - not allowed to change or take other clothing. The story goes , they spent 3 weeks wearing them the right way round, and 3 weeks back to front. Lovely in the heat of Gallipoli !"

Mandy McTaggart



Troop 2 Sqn C West Kent Yeomanry.
(Edwin Pope far left)



Mandy McTaggart - daughter of Barbara Pears of Exford, who was the daughter of Edwin Pope

By coincidence, the grandfather of Jon Trouton, of nearby Luckwell Bridge, was the Medical Officer who signed and approved the enlistment form for Edwin Pope in Kent in 1913.



Winsford 1914