



Edward Bly Dalliston

M1/7973 Corporal, 52nd Motorised Transport Company, Army Service Corps

He died at home in London on 1st December 1915, aged 43

Edward is buried at Richmond Cemetery, Surrey.

Dalliston was in the Army Service Corps and described as being part of the Expeditionary Force when he died. Generally speaking, casualties from the Army Service Corps (they were responsible for military logistics, ensuring ammunition and other supplies arrived where and when needed) appear in small isolated groups, or as single casualties – their deaths tended to be accidental, in isolated incidents or just down to bad luck as opposed to deaths that occurred in concerted infantry assaults. This does not mean their job was easy – just that being older or less fit their role tended

to be in support rather than in front line assaults. Dalliston appeared in a list described as 'Died' as opposed to 'Killed' or 'Died of Wounds'. He is also, separately, described as dying 'At Home'. This does not necessarily mean he died at his home, merely he died in this country. The most likely scenario is that he died in a Military Hospital in this country and since his record describe him as being based in Aldershot, that Hospital was most likely the famous Cambridge Military Hospital, currently being converted to rather chichi apartments!

The following casualties amongst non-commissioned officers and men of the Expeditionary Force, not previously published, are reported under various dates:—

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED WOUNDED, NOW REPORTED DIED
OF WOUNDS

A. AND S. HRS., 10TH BAT.—Davies, S/6073, T. H.

A. AND S. HRS., 11TH BAT.—M'Millan, S/3138, J.

DIED.

BORDER RGT., 2ND. BAT.—Neville, 6356, W.

ARMY SERVICE CORPS.

Beaumont, 695, Driver A.

Cattle, T1/1022, Driver A.

Crosby, M1/08220, D.

Dalliston, M1/07973, Lance-

Cpl. E.

Etchells, M/2/052833, W. H.

George, SS/17307, T.

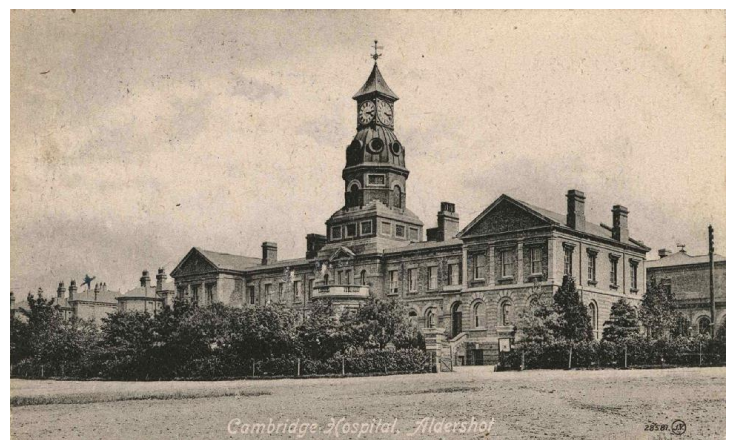
Hunt, SS/8322, H.

Sanderson, M1/05506, C.

The Scotsman
24 Jan 1916

Digging deeper into the records, it transpires that the 52nd Motorised Transport Corps, to which Dalliston was assigned was a Regular Army Home Depot / Discharge Centre in Aldershot. Regular Army it may have been and Dalliston's participation in both the Boer and Somali Land Wars confirm he had been an enlisted man, but by the outbreak of

War Dalliston had left the Army and was a married man, raising his children in Hounslow – now described as South London but then in Middlesex. Working as a Brewer's Drayman, these skills would have ideally suited him for the Battalion he wound up in when he re-enlisted in November 1914.

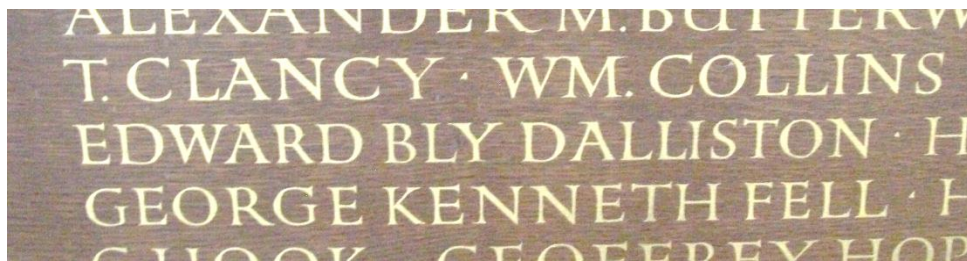
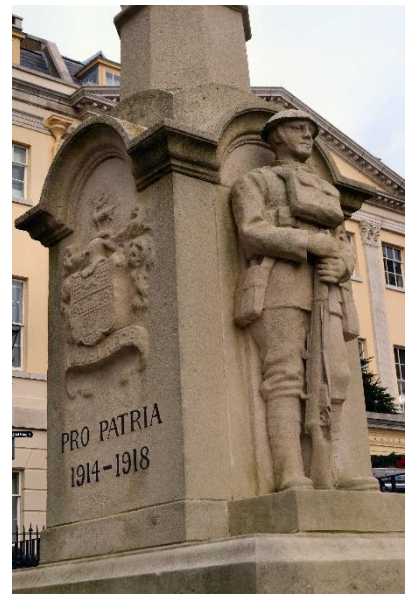




The Dalliston's 1911 Home at 4 Cranbrook Rd

Aged 43 at the time of his death, it is looking more and more likely that this Old Soldier had died of illness or disease rather than from battle injuries. Checking into the CWGC records and we find that he did indeed die of disease and was buried at the Richmond Cemetery (which was then in the County of Surrey). I suspect his family had been hugely relieved that he was in a 'cushy' job, only to experience heartbreak in early 1916 when he passed away. I can't imagine he was an exceptional soldier, the highest rank he achieved was Acting Corporal, a promotion that was not made permanent, he was back to being a Lance Corporal at the time of his death.

Edward Bly Dalliston's family did their best to ensure he would not be forgotten; his memorial in the Richmond Cemetery is not a standard Military one, instead his final resting place has been marked by a memorial erected by his family. He also appears on a board at St Anne's Church Kew as well as the Harleston one.



Designed by Messrs Goodale & Co of Richmond, the Richmond memorial was unveiled by Field Marshal Sir William Robertson on 23 November 1921 at a ceremony attended by the Mayor and Corporation.

The upperpart carries Richmond Borough's coat of arms to the north-east and south-west, the figure of a sailor to the north-west and a soldier to the south-east. Below the Borough arms is inscribed PRO PATRIA/ 1914 – 1918. The walls of names were added to the memorial after a newspaper campaign in 1989. The head of the sailor, cut off by vandals in 2003, has since been restored.

So, we know that Edward Dalliston and his Cambridge born wife had settled down in what is now known as South London, hence the Richmond and Kew monuments, what was the Harleston link? Actually, at this point it is good to remind ourselves that whilst Wortwell has its own memorial, our Broad St Memorial also commemorates the fallen of the Wortwell parish and that names would be proposed for commemoration by the residents of both these parishes.

Well, Edwards father, a builder/carpenter, and his wife moved up from (Ilketshall) St Margaret's, Suffolk sometime between the birth of their two oldest sons, about 1871 and the birth of Edward in 1874. Edward appeared living with his parents in Denton in 1881 with his older two brothers and three younger siblings. Now Dalliston is not that common a name and, interestingly, a Roger Dalliston had married an Eliabeth Burrows in the small parish church of Denton way back in 1757 and then proceeded to baptise at least 6 children there in the next 9 years – perhaps there were some old links with the village?

John Andrews, of Topcroft, shoemaker, was charged by Henry Dalliston, of Denton, carpenter, with an assault on June 11th. Complainant, who is parish constable of Denton, was sent for to the Watch House Inn to clear the place of some parties who were fighting. While engaged in doing this he was struck by defendant. It did not appear that the assault was a severe one, and an application was made that the case might be settled out of Court, as the complainant was unwilling to push matters further. This was done on defendant paying the costs.

Edward's father, Builder and Carpenter Henry Dalliston, appears to have speedily embedded himself in the community and became the Parish Constable, with a reasonably light touch as the following snippet indicates.

Norwich Mercury
26 Jun 1878

They were not in Denton for much longer as when the father Henry, died on the 24th of October 1885, at the early age of 42, they were already living in the nearby village Wortwell. the home village given for the family in subsequent records. Mind, Henry had lived long enough to set his oldest son off in a career as a carpenter whilst the next son down became a butler in Westmoreland!

Edward Dalliston took one of the other options available to a lad of rural upbringing and limited funds by enlisting. We are lucky enough to have his original attestation documents which reveal he was almost 18, lived in Wortwell and enlisted in Harleston in 1890, where he was working as a blacksmith. Some six weeks after he had enlisted in the Norfolk Artillery, he was transferred to the 8th Hussars. in 1891 Edward was in the Army, a cavalry regiment in fact, the 8th Hussars. At the time the regiment was based up at the Norwich Cavalry Barracks. He was not the only member of the family to follow this route out of rural Norfolk, in 1904, William Dalliston, aged 20 and also of Wortwell who was working as a bricklayer for a Mr Hipperson in Harleston also joined up. This turned out to be our Edward's younger brother, his junior by 13 years. I think the family must have been fairly close knit as in 1901, Willie (as he was known) was sharing a house with two of his unmarried older siblings by the Chapel farm. And yes, at age 17, he was a bricklayer's labourer, maybe for brother George who was an actual bricklayer!

I am afraid this George Dalliston slightly blotted his copybook the same year William joined up when, along with Ernest Cook, the older brother of Charles Cook, (also commemorated on the Harleston Monument) and two other builders, he raided the cellar of the uninhabited building he was working on. Stealing 54 bottles of fine vintage wines over a period of weeks they had a fine old time. Ernest Cook 'got off' due to testifying, George Dalliston and the other two inebriates got a month's hard labour each, a lenient sentence in light of their previous good characters.

Form E 504
MILITIA ATTESTATION OF
No. 1351 Name E. B. Dalliston
Norfolk Artillery Regiment.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name?	1 Edward Bly Dalliston
2. In what Parish, and in, or near what Town, and in what County were you born?	2 In the Parish of Denton near the Town of Harleston in the County of Norfolk
3. Are you a British Subject?	3 Yes
4. Where do you now reside?	4 In the Parish of Wortwell near the Town of Harleston in the County of Norfolk
5. Where have you resided for the last twelvemonth?	5 In the Parish of Wortwell near the Town of Harleston in the County of Norfolk
6. What is your age?	6 17 Years 10 Months
7. What is your Trade or Calling?	7 Blacksmith
8. Are you an Apprentice?	8 No
9. What is the Name and Residence of your present (or former) Master?	9 Mr. J. Cookers Town of Harleston in the County of Norfolk
10. Are you Single, Married, or a Widower?	10 Single
11. If Married, or a Widower, how many Children have you under 14 years of age?	11 None
12. Have you ever been sentenced to Penal Servitude?	12 No
13. Have you ever been discharged from any part of Her Majesty's Forces with Ignominy, or as Ineligible and Worthless, or on account of conviction of felony, or of a sentence of penal servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Army or Navy? And you are warned that you are liable to heavy Punishment if you make a false answer to this question.	13 No
14. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, any Regiment, Brigade, or Corps in Her Majesty's Army or in the Army Reserve? If so state cause of Discharge.	14 No
15. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, the Marines? If so state cause of Discharge.	15 No
16. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, the Militia, or Militia Reserve? If so state cause of Discharge.	16 No
17. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, the Royal Navy? If so state cause of discharge.	17 No
18. Do you now belong to the Volunteers, or to the Naval Artillery Volunteers, or to the Royal Naval Reserve Force?	18 No
19. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous Service?	19 Yes
20. Are you in receipt of a pension for any such Service?	20 No
21. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for Her Majesty's Service?	21 No
22. Did you receive a Notice and do you understand its meaning?	22 Yes
23. Who gave you the Notice?	23 (Name) A. Bradley B. S. M. R. C. (Corps) 1 st Bn. V. C. D. R. C.
24. Are you willing to be attested for the term of six years (provided Her Majesty should so long require your services), as a Militiaman for the County of Norfolk, to serve in the Norfolk Artillery?	24 Yes

I, Edward Bly Dalliston do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true and that I am willing to fulfil the engagement made.

Edward B. Dalliston (Signature of Recruit) A. Bradley B. S. M. R. C. (Signature of Witness)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MILITIA RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.
I, Edward Bly Dalliston do solemnly promise and swear that I will be faithful to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, her heirs and successors, and that I will faithfully serve in the Militia, until I shall be discharged. Witness my hand.
Edward B. Dalliston (Signature of Recruit) A. Bradley B. S. M. R. C. (Signature of Witness)

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR OF A COMMISSIONED OFFICER.
The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the foregoing questions he would be liable to be punished.
The foregoing questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.
I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and oath before me at Harleston on this 21st day of September 1890.
J. W. Hamlyn (Signature of Magistrate) or (Signature of Comm. Officer of Recruit's Res.)

If any alteration is required on this page of the Attestation, the Officer who attested the Recruit, or a Justice of the Peace, should be requested to make it and initial the alteration under Section 80 (b), Army Act, 1881.
The Recruit should, if he require it, receive a copy on the following day.

Edward's younger brother William signed up for 6 years and, ironically bearing in mind the escapades above, fresh out of the Army in 1911, was at aged 27 an unmarried Police Constable living, along with 162 other policemen at the Ambrosden Section House in Westminster – ironically next to the Salvation Army Hostel! This impressive building, planned in 1887, has, much the same as the Cambridge Military Hospital now been converted to flats. William married Rosa Frost in Kensington in 1914, presumably shortly before he got hauled back into the Army when reservists were remobilised. Rosa was the daughter of Giles Frost, for many years an employee of the Gawdy Hall estate.



Rosa and William's first child, also named Rosa, was born in London, the second, Dorothy L E, in Wortwell, their third Gordon TM back in London. William Dalliston survived the war and continued as a member of the London Police Force until his retirement in 1932. At this point William returned home and took over the Yew Tree in Redenhall, but it appears he gave up the pub in 1937, following the death of his wife. Rosa and William's second child, Dorothy Lily went on to marry, Sgt John Joseph Duffy; he, the husband of Edward Bly Dalliston's niece, is commemorated in his own right on the Harleston Memorial.