

*Banstead Remembers*  
*Lieutenant Arthur Paterson*  
*of 13 Court Road*

*8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry*  
*Served in Salonika, Greece*  
*Died of Wounds, aged 29*



**TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER**

at All Saints Church, Banstead

7:30am: the churchyard flag will be raised to half-mast  
11:50am: a short service of remembrance will be held  
Noon: a church bell will be tolled 100 times

Arthur Paterson was a teacher at Truro Cathedral School. He died of a thigh wound sustained in the Allied attack on Flat Iron Hill, in Greece. Please come and remember the sacrifice that our local community made.

*We will remember each one*

## *Lieutenant Arthur Paterson of 13 Court Road*

Arthur Stanley Paterson was born on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1889 and baptised at St Mary's, Hornsey, on 7<sup>th</sup> April. He was the son of Arthur and Kate Paterson (nee Burrell).

The Patersons lived at 2 Campsbourne Road, Hornsey. They had eight children, of which Arthur was one of the younger ones. His father was a commercial traveller and must have often been away from home when young Arthur was growing up. Much later, Arthur's parents and his unmarried sisters moved to Banstead. They lived at Benavista, in Court Road; the house is now number 13.

Arthur attended the prestigious Alleyn's School, in Dulwich, between April 1899 and November 1904. He preferred science to literature and achieved Class II honours for Magnetism and Electricity and Advanced Mathematics in the Board of Education exams. He later attended London University and became an assistant master at the Cathedral School, in Truro, Cornwall, in 1909, where he taught science as well as being Head of Year for the First Form.

When Arthur was 21, he married Ethel Elizabeth Harris in her hometown of Falmouth. They made their home in Truro, living close to the cathedral. Three children, Robert (b.1912), Olive (b.1913) and Mary (b.1915), were born in Truro.

Arthur was a cadet lieutenant in the school's Officer Training Corps and he applied for a commission in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in November 1915. He was based on the Home Front, near Chiseldon, Wiltshire, for two years and Ethel took a house nearby, where their fourth child, Arthur, was born in 1917.

Arthur finally left Britain in the winter of 1917. He travelled south through France to the port of Marseilles, embarked aboard *HMT Briton* and sailed through the Mediterranean to Salonika (now Thessaloniki), in northern Greece. While Arthur was away, Ethel moved in with her parents-in-law in Court Road, Banstead.

Dysentery and base duties delayed his arrival at his new battalion, the 8<sup>th</sup> D.C.L.I., until August 1918. It had been quiet on the Salonikan Front, where the Allies were fighting the Bulgarians, for much of 1918 but that was about to change. In September, as the Allied offensive on the Western Front rolled the Germans back, they also began an offensive in Greece. On 18<sup>th</sup> September, the D.C.L.I. stormed Bulgarian positions on Flat Iron Hill. There was nowhere to hide from the Bulgarian guns on the exposed, rocky hilltop and they endured hours of shelling before they had to withdraw. Arthur was captured, having been shot in the thigh. The Bulgarian line soon broke, however, and Arthur was found a few days later in hospital. He was in a bad way and suffering greatly. Although evacuated for treatment, he died of his wounds on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. He was 29 years old. Arthur is buried in Karasouli Military Cemetery, in Greece.