

# **Lost Heir to the Hain Dynasty in Hospitals Naming**

During the November meeting in 1915 at the Masonic Hall St. Ives, the Secretary of Tregenna Lodge No. 1272 reported that one of its members, Captain Edward (Teddy) Hain of the Royal 1<sup>st</sup> Devon Yeomanry, was killed at Gallipoli on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1915. The loss of a very popular man and a Freemason marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this Wednesday, on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015.



As Captain in command of 'A' Squadron, he landed in Gallipoli and was later killed in his dugout by a Turkish shell on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1915 at the age of 28.

Well thought of in the local area, Teddy was also respected further afield as a talented sportsman, businessman, authority on shipping matters, officer, soldier, and generally as a true gentleman. No person's loss is greater than the next but with the loss of Teddy Hain, St. Ives certainly lost one of its most influential sons both as heir to the Porthia Estate and as future head of the Hain family. Captain Hain's death also led to the Hain family's most tangible contribution to the town—The Edward Hain Memorial Hospital.

**Born in 1887, Teddy was the only son of Edward Hain, later Sir Edward Hain, and Catherine Seward Hughes and is described as being: ‘from childhood deservedly popular in his native town and his genial and cheery disposition made him much beloved by all he came into contact with’.**

**The recipient of a standard middle-class Edwardian education, Teddy first attended Twyford School in Hampshire before moving onto Winchester College.**

**A keen sportsman he represented both his school and University College in association football and cricket. In cricket he also represented Cornwall. In 1906, his last year at Winchester, he headed the list of batting averages for the College with 67.66.**

**From Winchester he entered New College, Oxford, his popularity securing him the position of Steward of Junior Common Room and his sporting endeavours—as with Winchester—the captaincy of both the football and cricket clubs. He also indulged in the dramatic arts and is remembered in the history of the Oxford Shakespeare Club for his 1907 role in *Henry IV Part 1* during which he had to perform both the *Bardolph* and *Mistress Quickly* roles during the scene in which the two are arguing—with each other!**

**Following school, he embarked on a ‘general education’ to enable him to assist Sir Edward Hain in his public life and his duties with the Hain Steamship Company. This education included twelve months with Messer’s Redheads shipbuilding yard in South Shields who had built all the Hains ‘Tre’ prefixed steamers.**

**He spent time travelling on the Continent and for some months worked at one of the largest shipping offices in a ‘well known’ port before becoming a Director of the family company.**

**In 1913 Teddy married Judith Wogan-Brown the daughter of former Lt. Col. F. W. N. ‘Frank’ Wogan-Brown formerly of the Hussars.**

## THE YEOMANRY

Teddy had enlisted in the 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Devon Yeomanry—part of the Army Reserve—as soon as he left Oxford in 1912. By the Great War the Regiment was equipped as Hussars and consisted of four squadrons –A, B, C and D known as the ‘Cornish Squadron’ with the majority of the men coming from the Duchy.

As home defence force members could be compelled to serve outside the country, however, on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914, many members volunteered for Imperial Service including Edward Hain (despite a profession which would have secured him a release from combat service).

The 1/1<sup>st</sup> Royal Devon Yeomanry in 1914 was mobilised as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> South Western Mounted Brigade. With the war on the Western Front in France having reached a stalemate of immobile trench systems by the Autumn of 1914 there was little need for mobile cavalry and in September 1915 the unit was ‘dismounted’ in preparation for their deployment to Gallipoli as infantry. Originally in the Cornish Squadron, by the time of their landing in Gallipoli, Teddy commanded ‘A’ Squadron.



EDWARD Hain.

## GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN

Prior to the war the British Government had attempted through diplomacy, to persuade the Ottoman Empire to remain neutral. In contrast the Germans who for years had supplied officers and training in modern warfare to the Ottoman Army, took the opposite approach and courted the Empire as an ally. Ultimately the German approach won out.

Ottoman entry into the war cut the last supply line to Russia jeopardising their war on the Eastern Front and the Caucasus and soon the Russians were calling for support from their Western allies.

After an allied landing near the present day Iskenderun in the east of Turkey was discounted, and the Ottomans rejected a British attempt to pay them to switch sides, Winston Churchill, as first Lord of the Admiralty, proposed a naval attack on the Dardanelles. This demonstration would force the sea way into the Black Sea and destroy the forts which controlled it. The naval attack failed and a land force was gathered for an assault on the Gallipoli Peninsular to take the forts over land.

### LAND CAMPAIGN

The land campaign was always going to be difficult but a five-week weather delay made things worse allowing Ottoman forces to prepare and reinforce their positions for the coming assault.

The initial landings took place on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915 in two places—the area around a small cove which has become known as Anzac Cove, on the western side of the peninsular and at Cape Helles on the southern tip. The aim being to secure the northern shore, capturing the Ottoman forts and artillery batteries, so that a naval force could advance through the Narrows and the Sea of Marmara towards Constantinople. The initial landings secured a tenuous beachhead, but over the next few months no further real ground was made and it became a stalemate of trench warfare.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> October Teddy Hain's regiment landed at Suvla Bay around five miles north of Anzac Cove.

Once disembarked the 1<sup>st</sup> Devon went into the reserve bivouacs in the area West of Karakol Dagh and were set to work digging trenches and constructing and reinforcing dug-outs in the sandy and stony soil. On the 30<sup>th</sup> October 1915 the regiment took its first duty in 'the line' for around three hours before spending the next three days constructing dug-outs and trenches in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line trench system south of Karakol Dagh.

One act that seemed to typify young Edward Hain was reported in letters home after his death from both his former 'Cornish' Squadron subordinate and fellow St. Ives boy Corporal J. Pearce—son of St. Ives Alderman Mr. J. Pearce—and in a letter to his family from his 'Cornish Squadron' commanding officer, the Lord Vivian. On hearing that one of the Hain Line ships, the SS Trewellard, was in Suvla Bay he went on-board and persuaded the Captain, Fred Uren, to part with some of the Ship's stores which he distributed—not only to his own men—but to his former troopers in the Cornish Squadron.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1915 the Regiment left their bivouac for the trenches at Jephson's Post, taking over a line of trenches from the 11<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion, Manchester Regiment.

At the time Jephsons Post was a relatively quiet area of the front with the main threat being Turkish snipers and the very occasional shell.

### CAPTAIN EDWARD HAINS DEATH

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, 1915 only a matter of hours before he was due to leave the front line trenches at Jephsons Post Teddy Hain was killed when his dug-out suffered a direct hit. The Regimental War Diary recounts the event: 'November 11<sup>th</sup> Suvla—At 10-45 hours D43 was shelled. Captain Edward Hain was killed in his dug-out and two men wounded, one dangerously'.

In his letter to the Hain family Lord Vivian's respect for Teddy clearly shines through when he writes: '*Words fail me to say how deeply we all feel the loss of our gallant comrade and friend*'. That Edward Hain had '*....proved himself to be a very*

*brilliant officer....' that '....all ranks of which would have followed him anywhere'.*

Corporal Pearce was the only member of the Cornish Squadron allowed to attend Teddy's funeral. He wrote: *'it's a terrible affair, and it has cast quite a gloom over the whole regiment, we could not spare him, not only on account of his being so popular with all ranks, but because he was really a clever soldier...our Squadron (Cornish Squadron) felt it very keenly...'*

His letter continues: *' He was in his dug-out when a shell pitched right on top, killing him instantly'*. At the time of his death Teddy had been discussing the hand-over of his section of trench with the incoming officer.

Immediately after his death he was buried *'three quarters of a mile back from where he fell, in a little cemetery on the sea-shore.'* Pearce described the place *'...he is buried in another such place as a hill facing the sea out at Clodgy'*.

He now lies in a grave L.F. 18 Hill 10 Cemetery, Gallipoli.

## OBEYED THE CALL

Only days after Teddy's death Lord Kitchener visited Gallipoli, the next day he recommended a full withdrawal and the closure of the campaign—a recommendation which was accepted.

The Allied campaign on the Gallipoli peninsula has gone down in history, and at the time, as a major defeat for the allies and a great victory of the Ottoman Empire. Too simplistic a view, this takes into account only the campaign and not the wide effect it had. The Turkish Army in Gallipoli was considered the best equipped and trained in the Empire and defence during the campaign was effectively under the overall command of a highly efficient German General aided by some of the Ottomans Empire's best officers. While all the campaigns objectives failed it did seriously, and for the rest of the war, weaken the Ottoman war effort due to the strain, the loss of men and equipment placed on the Empire.

**That of course, is no consolation to those who lost loved ones.**

**The death of Teddy hit the family hard and Sir Edward Hain was never able to recover from the loss. He survived his son and heir by less than two years. In June 1917 he suffered a severe break-down during an air-raid on London and died at home on September 20<sup>th</sup> 1917.**

**Throughout the conflict the danger for crews on merchant ships particularly the Hain Shipping Line was ever-present and it became noticeable that there was no hospital within ten miles of St. Ives.**

**A memorial fund had been set up by the Hain Steamship Company and when, within a week of the wars end, the death occurred of a Mrs. Morris of Albany House, a detached property overlooking the St. Ives Bay, it was decided that this would be most suitable for use as a hospital.**

**Lady Hain herself contributed funds to ensure its success.**

**Named in honour of Captain Edward Hain Junior, the new hospital was opened by the town mayor in 1920. The Edward Hain Memorial Hospital is a huge contribution to the Cornish people in general, but particularly to the town, and have been used by the community of St. Ives, and patients from mid-Cornwall, since 1920.**



**The Edward Hain Memorial Hospital was constructed to commemorate the death of Teddy who died on 11<sup>th</sup> November**

**1915 at Gallipoli. This hospital is used by patients from mid-Cornwall to Land's End, and has been in use for nearly 100 years.**

**Lady Hain also donated land adjacent to the parish church for the erection of a war memorial, 20 feet high and bearing the legend Lest We Forget, which she herself unveiled in November 1922. On it, along with the name of Captain Edward Hain, are listed those of 91 other men of the town who died in the conflict. In 1930 her daughter Mrs Boullivant gifted the land on which the memorial stands to the towns corporation. Ten years ago this chapter in the Hain history was closed when Sir Edward Hain's great-grandson and his family were present at the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the family's generosity.**



**The land on which this War Memorial was erected was given by the Hain family in memory of their son Edward Hain who was killed at Gallipoli on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1915 a member of the Tregenna Lodge No 1272 at St. Ives, Cornwall.**





THE wreath laid on Remembrance Sunday by the Friends of Edward Hain Hospital. This year they also laid a copy of the photograph of Captain Hain's grave marker at Gallipoli.

**This wreath laid on Remembrance Sunday by the Friends of Edward Hain Hospital. This year they also laid a copy of the photograph of Captain Edward Hain's grave marker at Gallipoli, where he died on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1915, to mark 100 years of his death.**



**These memorial gardens were also given to the people of St. Ives by the Hain family to commemorate the death of their son Edward Hain who died in Gallipoli on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1915, a member of Tregenna Lodge No 1272.**

**This year they commemorate 100 years after the First World War.**

**Vivian A. Stratton PPSGW  
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