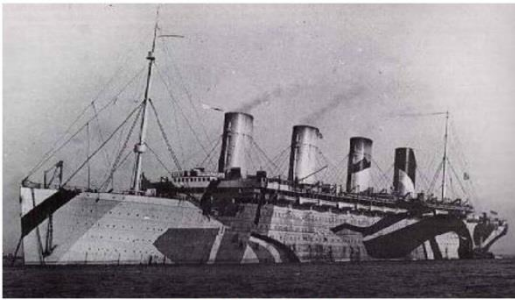


Gerald Newton

3251 Suffolk Yeomanry died 1 November 1915 aged 21.

Gerald was born in Warboys in 1894 the youngest of the 4 children of George and Mary Newton. The family lived on Ramsey Road. His father George was a farmer and a local JP who signed the enlistment forms of some of the other men on the War Memorial. Gerald worked on the farm.

At the outbreak of war, Gerald went to Woodbridge to enlist as a trumpeter in the Suffolk Yeomanry. Initially they were a home battalion patrolling the East Coast, but on 25 September 1915 they dismounted and sailed from Liverpool on the SS Olympic on its first voyage as a troop carrier. It was full to capacity with 6000 men.



Olympic in dazzle paint.

The journey was not without incident as on the 1st of October the Captain stopped to pick up 34 survivors from a French ship which had been sunk by U-boats. The ship then successfully evaded a German submarine. For halting the ship in U-boat territory the Captain was severely reprimanded by the British High Command but the French Government awarded him the Gold Medal of Honour.

The ship travelled via Egypt landed at Anzac Cove. dreadful. Dead bodies were of the terrain and flies and



and on 10 October 1915 Conditions in Gallipoli were unable to be buried because vermin flourished in the heat.

The Suffolks in Gallipoli

The British casualties numbered 213,000 and of these 145,000 were due to sickness, chiefly dysentery, diarrhoea and enteric fever. Gerald was one of these and was evacuated to St. Andrews Military Hospital, Malta where three weeks after he landed at Anzac Cove he died from dysentery on 1 November 1915 aged 21.



Wounded troops from Gallipoli disembarking in Malta

His parents moved to Cambridge and his father died on 8th October 1931 and his mother on 7th April 1932 at Oakington where Gerald is also commemorated on the Memorial in St. Andrew's Church.