

BARING, Charles Alexander



Back - Mr. M. Horan, Students A.J. Atkinson, E. Gunning, A. Piggin, O. Ussher, D.S. Maxwell, Mr. H.D. Barlow, Students E. Phillips, A.K. Maney-Lake, W.O. Hill, Mr. R.H. Inder.

Middle - Students **C.A. Baring**, B.M. Arthur, Mr. D.H. Reay (Capt.), Mr. A.J. Donnan (Hon. Sec. and Treas.), Student B.G. Rigby.

Kneeling - Students H.L. Harvey, H.C. Watt. Sitting - Mr. A.T.R. Brown, Student G.A. Rowney.
(Cooke Challenge Trophy and Lady Rawson Cup)

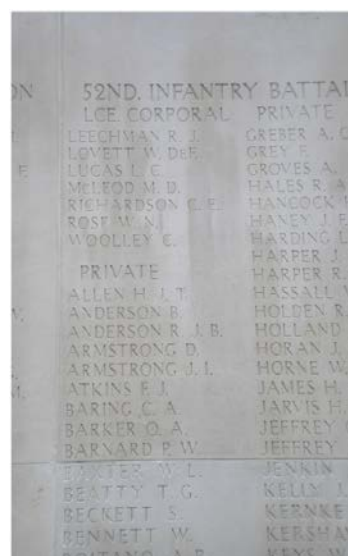
University Ref. AI-49242 HAC Journal (Vol.IX, No.12) November 1912 p.137



Private Charles Alexander Baring

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Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France
Photograph © P.R. Lister 20 June 2014

Charles Alexander Baring was born at Kings Worthy, Hampshire, England on 11 January 1893, the son of Reverend Francis Henry and Amy. Charles attended Norwich Grammar School, Norfolk, England.

Aged 17, Charles enrolled in the HAC diploma course in 1910. Charles' older brother, Ernest, had just left HAC in December of the previous year, having successfully completed the Diploma. Charles was a member of the Rifle Club 1910-1911, Life-saving class in 1911, hockey team in 1912, and athletics 1911-1912, and successfully completed his Diploma in December 1912.

By July 1913 Charles was clearing and fencing land at Spring Bay, Triabunna, Tasmania to establish his own sheep property.

Charles enlisted 23 October 1915, in the 12th Battalion, 16th Reinforcement. In November 1915 he wrote to the College, informing them that he had leased his property and enlisted, and was in camp at Ross, expecting soon to be moved to Claremont where he understood several HAC ex-students were. He was pleased he had undertaken rifle shooting while a student as he felt it would now be of great use, remarking;

'I think Australia has to thank the H.A.C. for its training to the many ex-students enlisted, particularly to Harry Reay for captaining the rifle club, and for the instruction he gave at the musketry practices, and to the Principal for the splendid facilities he gave for practising'.

Charles embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on board RMS Orontes on 29 March 1916, and in May he transferred to the 52nd Battalion.

Details from the Roll of Honour Circular state Charles was 'Last seen in the first line of the German trench, and took part in a charge in which his battalion achieved all its objectives'.

Charles was Killed in Action at Thiepval-Mouquet Farm, Pozieres, France on 4 September 1916, aged 23. There is no known grave and he is remembered on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Somme, France.

Charles Alexander Baring was one of five brothers to serve in World War One. All five served in France, two with Australian forces and three with British forces. His brothers Cecil Christopher, Reginald Arthur and Ernest also lost their lives serving their country and all four are remembered on the Sudbury War Memorial, Suffolk, England.