



Thame Remembers

Sergeant

George Bertie Parker



Born in Cowley, Oxford on 8 November 1866, George Bertie Parker was the only son of George Parker (1833 - 1900), who for many years was Clerk of the University Schools at Oxford, and Sarah Ann Parker (nee Broadhurst) (1844 - 1934). He was educated at New College School, Oxford, and later as a boarder at Lord Williams's Grammar School, Thame, Oxfordshire. He matriculated as a Commoner (BA Queen's College) in 1885.

According to the 'Liber Vitae Reginensium' (Queen's College archives), he left university to enter the service of the British South Africa Company, became the Postmaster of Fort Tuli, and was selected to lay the telegraph from there to Fort Victoria. Later he was sent by Mr Cecil Rhodes to Buluwayo to organise the Matabele Police.

In April 1909 he sailed from London on the SS Ionic, arriving at Lyttleton, New Zealand, in November of that year, and in September 1915 he enlisted with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He served on the home front in a Training Unit of the Army Supply Corps and died from an unknown illness at the Victoria Military Hospital, Wellington, New Zealand, on 5 April 1917.

George is buried at Karori Cemetery in Wellington, New Zealand and remembered in Thame on Lord Williams's School Memorial Board.



The Thame Remembers Cross was delivered to his grave on 13th December 2014 by Mr George Bateman (Former head boy Lord Williams's School)

