

George Oliver

George was born circa 1890 to Robert Oliver and Elisabeth Cruse in England. The details we have been able to locate are scant. He fought in World War One as part of the English forces.

Service number	45731
Rank	Corporal
England	Royal Horse Artillery (Z Battery)

The Royal Horse Artillery was responsible for light, mobile guns that provided firepower in support of the cavalry. It was the senior arm of the artillery, but the one that developed and grew least during the Great War. In 1914 the establishment of the RHA was one battery to each brigade of cavalry. A battery had six 13-pounder field guns and included 5 officers and 200 men. Motive power was supplied by the battery's 228 horses. The original BEF included only one division of cavalry of 4 brigades, and thus it had four batteries RHA, which were organised into two brigades.

As with all elements of the regular army, these units were, after being mobilised in August 1914 manned by a mixture of serving regulars, army and Special Reservists. From around October 1914 they began to be supplemented by wartime recruits and by the war's end the majority of the complement of most regular units were not career soldiers. The regular brigades were generally under command of the British or Indian cavalry divisions, but a shortage of field artillery by late 1914 meant that some were at first joined to the newly-formed 7th, 8th and 29th Infantry Divisions.

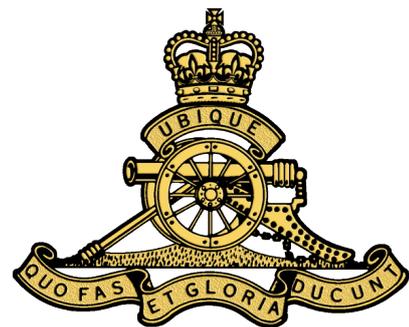
George left London on the 19th June 1952 on board the P&O Steamship Ranchi. He appears to have been travelling with his son Hector George Oliver, daughter in law Joyce Audrey Francis and two year old June.

They had all been living in Eden Grove, Horfield in England.

George was in Bairnsdale when he died but he is buried in the Traralgon Cemetery.



The P&O Steamship Ranchi that George came to Australia on.



The badge of the Royal Artillery

Gippsland Memorial Park - CE-K007



These two pictures depict are K battery – Royal Horse Artillery, similar to the Z battery that George Oliver fought with. They belong to François Bellin, amateur historian of the village of Tohogne