

George Cull

George Cull was born in Cadnam (sometimes given as North Eling), the son of Charles and Mary Cull. In 1891 the family were in the police house at Everton, near Lymington, where Charles was a constable. By 1901, Charles had retired, the family were living in Lymore; George was working as a domestic gardener. In 1911 he was living in Redbridge Lane with his wife Olive and children Florence and Mildred. He was working as a nurseryman gardener. Olive (Olive Louis Elizabeth Trippick) came from Oakhill in Somerset and had been in domestic service. Their banns were read in Langton Long, Blandford, in June 1907. At the time of his death, Olive is listed as living at 2, Belmont Cottages, Princes Crescent, Lyndhurst.

Gunner George Cull served in the 262 Siege battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. The RGA developed from fortress-based artillery located on British coasts; heavy artillery grew into a very large component of the British forces. The batteries were armed with heavy, large calibre guns and howitzers, positioned some way behind the front line so that they could bombard the German lines. 262 Siege Battery, went to France on 11 February 1917 armed with four 8" howitzers; this was made up to six howitzers with personnel of one section of 362 Siege Battery on 30 June. The National Archive at Kew holds some of the battery's field diaries.

George enlisted in Southampton and was in action at Passchendaele (3rd Battle of Ypres). He and two colleagues were wounded when an enemy shell exploded close by on the evening of 10th September 1917. He died of those wounds the next day. He is buried at the Dozinghem Military Cemetery.

Ann Laird - Rownhams November 2014