



Harold Batten
World War I
Royal Newfoundland Regiment
Regimental No. 3402

Born: October 30th 1900

Place of Birth: Bareneed

Parents: William and Sara Jane Batten

The description of Harold as noted in his enlistment documents dated 7th of January 1917 show him to be 5 feet 6 ½ inches tall, weighing 115 lbs, having Dark hair, grey eyes and of dark complexion. He was a student, just 18 years 3 months old and of Anglican faith.

Harold's service record has multiple entries covering his 2-year 2 months period of service. According to his official service record, Harold:

1. Embarked St. John's by train to Halifax on March 17th, 1917

2. Embarked for the British Expeditionary Force February 18th, 1918
3. Disembarked Rouen, France February 21, 1918
4. Wounded April 4th, 1918
5. Admitted to field hospital in Belgium on April 12th, 1918
6. Invalided to England April 19th, 1918
7. Admitted to another hospital April 20th, 1918
8. Then transferred to Wandsworth hospital May 29th, 1918
9. Furloughed and then attached to Depot at Winchester August 8th, 1918
10. To Newfoundland for discharge January 30th, 1919
11. Arrived Newfoundland February 7th, 1919
12. Demobilized/discharged April 3rd, 1919

Pte Batten had transferred from the RAF sometime in 1918.

The injury suffered when wounded in April 1918 was described as a GSW (gun shot wound) to his right arm. He was operated on at Rouen hospital in April following the wound but was reported by another hospital as not healing in late May the same year.

During his civil re-establishment board hearing, Pte Batten expressed the desire to be trained as a cable operator.

Out of service, the 1921 census finds Harold (at 21) living at home with his parents in Bareneed

By 1935, Harold is now married to wife Mary, and they have 3 children.

The 1945 census show that the Batten family is as it was in 1935, Harold, Mary and 3 children.

Harold died in 1972 and is buried in St. Mark's Anglican Church Cemetery, Bareneed.