



On their annual trip to the WW1 battlefields, as representatives of the OBA and the OB First World War Interest group, Jeremy Bromfield, Mike Burke, Ed Sautter and Duncan Abbot, (from left to right on the photo below) as part of the OBA's commemoration of the centenary of WW1, continued their programme of laying wreaths at the graves of the Bancroftians who fell in WW1. This year wreaths were laid at the graves of 23 OBs. 167 OBs were killed in action in WW1. Over the past 3 years the group has visited almost 100 graves on the Western Front. With the support of others who laid wreaths at graves overseas and in the UK only 25 graves remain to be visited before the 100th anniversary of the end of the war in November 2018.



The photo is of the group at the Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Cuinchy, France at the grave of Douglas Murray Cameron (7<sup>th</sup> November 1883 - 14<sup>th</sup> January 1916) who attended Bancroft's as a dayboy from 1894 to 1900. His four brothers also attended the School. He followed his Father into the chandlery business and in the summer of 1914 he was living at 14 Hermon Hill, Snaresbrook. Whilst in Lowestoft on business he enlisted into the 7<sup>th</sup> battalion, the Suffolk Regiment. His age was recognised as giving him wider experience both in organisation and command and he was quickly promoted to sergeant in charge of the grenadiers, bombing parties equipped with hand grenades, an essential element in aggressive trench warfare.

He landed on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1915 at Boulogne and proceeded Ploegstreet south of the Messines Ridge. On 10<sup>th</sup> January 1916 the battalion moved to the lines north of the La Basse canal at Givenchy near Bethune. It was here that Douglas was killed on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1916.

<http://www.bancroftians.net/cgi-bin/bancms3.pl?dn=centcamerondm>