



Private Malcolm Bradbury (Regimental Number 1188) lies in Bay Roberts (Old) United Church Cemetery.

His occupation previous to his military service recorded as that of a telegraph operator working for a monthly \$60.00 – the job of train brakeman is also cited - Malcolm Bradbury presented himself for medical examination at the Church Lads Brigade Armoury in St. John's on February 6, 1915. He then enlisted two days afterwards – engaged at the private soldier's rate of \$1.10 per diem - on February 8, before attesting on February 16. During this particular period before his departure it seems that he was boarding on George Street.



Private – and Signaller - Bradbury of 'E' Company embarked in St. John's on board the Bowring Brothers' vessel *Stephano* (right above – from the *Provincial Archives*) some two months later again, on April 22, 1915.

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(Right adjacent black & white: Newfoundland troops on board a troop-ship anchored at Mudros, either *Megantic* on August 29, *Ausonia* on September 18, or *Prince Abbas* on September 19 – *Whichever the case, they were yet to land on Gallipoli.* – from Provincial Archives)



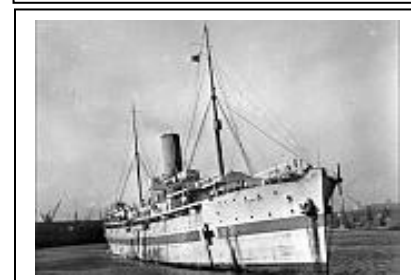
(Right: ‘Kangaroo Beach’, where 1st Battalion landed on the night of September 19-20, 1915, is in the distance at the far end of Suvla Bay. The remains of a landing-craft are still visible in the foreground on ‘A’ Beach. – photograph from 2011)



(Right: almost a century later, the area, little changed from those far-off days, of the Newfoundland positions at Suvla, and where Private Bradbury served during the fall of 1915 – photograph from 2011)



On December 9 he was admitted into 54th Casualty Clearing Station at Suvla suffering from frostbite. From there on the following day he was evacuated on board His Majesty’s Hospital Ship *Panama* to St. Paul’s Hospital on the British-held island of Malta where he was admitted on December 14.



(Right: Numerous British military medical establishments today stand disused on the island of Malta, independent since 1964. – photograph from 2011)

Apparently there was more to worry about than just frostbite: On February 2 on the following year, 1916, it was apparently once again *Panama* which Private Bradbury boarded for the nine day passage back to the United Kingdom where he was immediately admitted into the 3rd London General Hospital in the Borough of Wandsworth, by now having been now diagnosed as with dysentery.

(Right: The main building of what became 3rd London General Hospital during the Great War was opened, on July 1st, 1859, as a home for the orphaned daughters of British soldiers, sailors and marines. – photograph from 2010)



(Above far right: Newfoundland patients convalescing at 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth – courtesy of Reverend Wilson Tibbo and Mrs. Lillian Tibbo

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Upon discharge from hospital, Private Bradbury was granted the customary ten-day furlough granted to military personnel upon release from hospital in the United Kingdom – on this instance from April 19 until 28 - and was immediately posted to 'E' Company at the Regimental Depot, Ayr, where he apparently did not arrive until May 2.

The Regimental Depot had been established during the summer of 1915 in the Royal Borough of Ayr on the west coast of Scotland to serve as the base for the 2nd (Reserve) Battalion. It was from there – as of November of 1915 up until January of 1918 – that the new-comers from home were sent in drafts, at first to Gallipoli and later to the Western Front, to bolster the four fighting companies of 1st Battalion.



(Right: an aerial view of Ayr – probably from the period between the Wars: Newton-on Ayr is to the left of the River Ayr and the Royal Borough is to the right. – courtesy of the Carnegie Library at Ayr)

However, it must have soon become obvious that Private Bradbury was unfit for overseas service as he was by then suffering from tuberculosis. He was discharged back to Newfoundland: one document has him travelling on the SS *Corsican*; a second source has the *Sicilian**. The journey – via Québec – apparently lasted from July 20 until August 5.



**In fact, if he left the United Kingdom on July 20 and took passage to Québec, the only ship to match those criteria was the Corinthian (right above).*

Still attached to the Regiment even after his arrival back home, it was not until September 12 that Private Bradbury was definitively discharged as *medically unfit*. He had served in the Regiment for one year and one-hundred eighty-nine days.

The son of Joshua Bradbury, fisherman, and Rachel Bradbury – to whom he had allotted a daily allowance of sixty cents from his pay - of Mercer's Cove, Bay Roberts, he was also brother to: Pearl, a teacher in Bay Roberts; Ruby; and Stanley, a carpenter. He passed away, a victim of spinal tuberculosis, on February 17-18, 1918.

Malcolm Bradbury had enlisted at twenty-two years of age.

In 1923, the Department of Militia decided to consider Private Bradbury's grave as a War Grave, if his family members so desired. With their collective consent, and with the help of the Reverend Samuel Baggs, a Commonwealth tombstone today commemorates his sacrifice.

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Private Malcolm Bradbury was entitled to the 1914-1915 Star, as well as to the British War Medal (centre) and to the Victory Medal (Inter-Allied War Medal).

