



5680 Drum Major Joseph Hickey

Joseph Hickey was born in Limerick on 5th February 1884

He joined The Royal Scottish Fusiliers in 1897 aged 14. His father John Hickey had previously served The Colours for 20 years with The Scots and had fought during The Crimean War.

Joseph later transferred to The 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers and served in The Boer War. He left Ireland with his battalion on August 23rd 1899 and later left Southampton on The S.S. Arundel Castle bound for South Africa. The ship eventually arrived at Cape Town in South Africa on the 16th of September 1899. During his 3 years in Africa he earned The Kings (2 clasps) and Queens (4 clasps) Medals.



After the Boer War Joseph moved to The North Western Frontier in India with his Battalion where he earned The India General Service Medal.

At the outbreak of The First World War the 1st Battalion were stationed in Rangoon in India. They arrived back at Avonmouth UK in January 1915, and were entrained for Coventry where it was assigned to the 86th Brigade of the 29th Division (United Kingdom) . In March it sailed for the Dardanelles, Turkey, when it numbered 28 officers and 1,002 other ranks.



Drum Major Joseph Hickey was to survive the initial landings at 'V' Beach but was unfortunately killed by a sniper while burying one of his comrades. The following account of the Turkish attack on the 1st of May is more than likely an account of the battle in which Joseph Hickey was killed.

Joseph Hickey was only 32 years old when he was killed. His body was never recovered and he is remembered on The Helles Memorial in Gallipoli

In Memory of
Serjeant

Joseph Hickey

5680, 1st Bn., Royal Munster Fusiliers who died on 01 May 1915

Remembered with Honour
Helles Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission