

Albert James Cushen YOUNG

Born: 1887, Newport

Parents: Albert Young and Minnie Cushen

Last known address: Aster Cottage, Church Rd, Gurnard

Last known occupation: General labourer in a ship building yard

Service number: 8749

Regiment: 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment

Service history summary:

- enlisted: 1911, regular soldier
- rank: Private
- decorations: 15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal

Died: 28th April 1915

Age: 28

Commemorated : [Helles Memorial](#)

Family: Albert James Young was the eldest child of Albert Young and Minnie Cushen. He was born out of wedlock and hence initially took his mother's maiden name. Albert and Minnie married in St Thomas' Church, Newport, in 1887 and Albert was a gardener. William was born in Newport and their sisters in Cowes. Ellen (Nellie) Kathleen married Albert Edward Ince in 1923 at Newport Registry Office. They lived in Church Road and then Hilton Road, Gurnard. They had four boys (Kenneth Harry, Jack Albert, Robert Edward and George William) and two girls (Beryl and Jean). The latter were both living in Hilton Road but moved to East Cowes. It is worth noting that Jack Albert died in World War II and he is commemorated in Gurnard Parish Church by a memorial plaque beneath the World War I plaque that includes his uncle, Albert Young.

Brother: William (1892)

Sisters: Emily Ellen (1890) and Ellen Kathleen (1900)

Northwood/Gurnard connection: in the 1901 Census Albert James Young (13) his sister Emily (10) and father Albert were staying at 13 Pallance Road with Albert senior's nephew, Alfred Young, his wife Fanny and their children William and Emily. Alfred was a labourer on Comforts Farm. However Albert's mother Minnie was staying with her mother, Jane Cushen, (widow) who was stated to be the Licensed Victualler of 51 Lugley Street, Newport. His brother William and sister Kathleen were also there. There is no way of knowing if this was a long or short term arrangement. At the time of the 1911 Census his family were back together living in Aster Cottage without him. It has not been possible to establish where he was at the time of the Census; this may be because he had already enlisted in the regular army.

War record: information from the Royal Hampshire Museum, Winchester says that 8749 Private Albert Young (pictured) was a regular soldier who probably enlisted around 1911. He was born and lived at Gurnard, IOW and enlisted at Newport. He entered a theatre of war (Gallipoli) with the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment on



Picture courtesy of Jean Isham

April 25th 1915, the day of the initial landing, and was killed three days later. Previously, in August 1914, the 2nd Battalion had been in Mhow, India. They returned to England, arriving at Plymouth on December 22nd 1914, then on to Romsey and on February 13th 1915 to Stratford-upon-Avon. They came under the orders of 88th Brigade in the 29th Division and moved to Warwick. They sailed from Avonmouth on March 29th 1915 for Gallipoli, going via Egypt and landed at Cape Helles on April 25th.

It is believed that Pte Albert Young had been on board *SS River Clyde*, a converted collier, which was landing troops on beach V, which was perhaps the worst point on the peninsular of all the Gallipoli landings. It was easily defended by the Turkish Army from a cliff top fort. "The position formed a natural amphitheatre with the beach as stage" was a description by Sir John de Robeck, the commanding Officer for Gallipoli.

The plan was for the troops to land in boats but also walk ashore on a series of barges tied together as a bridge. Sadly, many soldiers were lost even before they had reached the shore and the barges were covered in dead men. The picture (right), taken from the bow of *SS Clyde* a couple of days after the initial landing shows the barges in position at the V beach camp. Note also the jury rig for getting stores ashore from the bow of the *SS River Clyde*.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landing_at_Cape_Helles