



A Rededication Service for

**Sapper Stanley Evelyn Barnden
17th Field Company, Royal Engineers**

**14:30 hours Tuesday 8 March 2022
CWGC Kandahar Farm Cemetery, Belgium**

**Service conducted by The Reverend Nick Sharpe CF
Chaplain to 4th Battalion
The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment**

Sapper Stanley Evelyn Barnden



Sapper Stanley Evelyn Barnden was born in Walton-le-Soken, Essex, in 1899. He was one of five children born to Arthur Elisha and Elizabeth Garnett Barnden. As a pre-war regular, he was sent to the Western Front on the outbreak of war, arriving on 18 August 1914.

Sapper Barnden was serving with 17th Field Company, Royal Engineers, when he was killed on 12 December 1914 near Neuve-Église. His section was tasked with constructing dugouts in the firing line. Sapper Barnden and a comrade were working inside a dugout when it collapsed, burying them both. His comrade was pulled out alive, but Sapper Barnden was found to have been killed by the falling debris.

He was buried in Kandahar Farm Cemetery, but it appears that throughout the course of the war the marker over his grave was damaged and his name was lost. He therefore lay here as an unknown soldier for more than a hundred years, and he was commemorated on the Menin Gate. However, new research has shown that this is the grave of Sapper Barnden and the headstone over the grave was changed to reflect this. Today we will remember Sapper Barnden and his grave will be rededicated.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Kandahar Farm Cemetery was used by Commonwealth divisions holding the sector from November 1914 to April 1918, when it fell into German hands with the capture of Wulverghem and Neuve-Eglise (now Nieuwkerke). The two villages were recovered in early September and the cemetery was used again. Sapper Barnden was among the original burials of 1914 and lies alongside 445 casualties of the First World War.

Call to Worship

The eternal God is our refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Deuteronomy 33:27 (AV)

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
that everyone who has faith in him
may not perish but have eternal life.

St John 3:16

We are gathered here today in this place of
remembrance to honour our fallen in conflicts past.

Today we remember with thanksgiving
Sapper Stanley Evelyn Barnden who alongside so many
others, answered the call of his country, served with
honour and gave the ultimate sacrifice of his life in the
service of his nation.

As we rededicate this grave, as it no longer holds the
remains of an unknown soldier, let us also rededicate our
lives in the service of God, so that His will may be done
on earth as it is in heaven and that His kingdom of justice
and peace may be established.

Prayer

God, the Lord of life and conqueror of death,
you are our help in every time of trouble.
We thank you for the assurance of the Gospel,
that in your keeping
the souls of the faithful
find lasting peace and joy,
and that though we see our loved ones no more
they are safe with you.

On this day we give thanks that these remains that were
once known only to you are now known to all of us.
We give thanks that we can now name them as Sapper
Stanley Evelyn Barnden.

As we rededicate these remains and this headstone we
give thanks for the life, the service and the sacrifice of
Stanley Evelyn Barnden.

By the glorious resurrection of your Son,
confirm in us the hope of eternal life,
and enable us to put our whole trust
in your goodness and mercy;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Read by Group Captain Justin Fowler
Defence Attaché to Belgium and Luxembourg

Isaiah Chapter 40 v 28-31 (NIV)

Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.
He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.
Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Gospel Reading

Lieutenant Colonel Toby Walch
The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

John Chapter 11 v 17-27 (NIV)

After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Reading

Read by Warrant Officer Class 1 Lee Payne
Regimental Sergeant Major, 35 Engineer Regiment

England to Her Sons

by Lieutenant William Noel Hodgson MC

Sons of mine, I hear you thrilling
To the trumpet call of war
Gird ye then, I give you freely,
As I give your sires before,
All the noblest of the children I in love and anguish bore.

Free in service, wise in justice,
Fearing but dishonours breath;
Steeled to suffer uncomplaining
Loss of failure, pain of death
Strong in faith which sees the issue and in hope that
trumpeth.

Go, and may the God of battles
You in his good guidance keep:
And if he wisdom giveth

Unto his beloved sleep
I accept nothing asking, save little space to weep.

Address

The Act of Remembrance

The Exhortation

Read by Warrant Officer Class 1 Lee Payne
Regimental Sergeant Major, 35 Engineer Regiment

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

All **We will remember them.**

The Last Post

The Silence

The Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

Read by Staff Sergeant Richard Maurins
17 Squadron, 35 Engineer Regiment

When you go home tell them of us and say:
'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Laying of Wreaths

Prayer

Eternal God,
by your dear Son's rising from the dead
you have destroyed the power of death.
In you the dead find life for ever,
and the faithful
who served you on earth
praise you for all eternity in heaven.
As we return to our tasks,
cheer us by the hope of everlasting life
and support us by the sure love
of your guiding hand.
Bring us at the last,
with all the faithful,
to the full knowledge of your love
and the unclouded vision of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect of the Corps of Royal Engineers

Read by Staff Sergeant Richard Maurins
17 Squadron, 35 Engineer Regiment

O God, whose righteousness is exceeding glorious, may it please thee to send out thy light and thy truth so to lead us thy servants of the Corps of Royal Engineers that everywhere we may be enabled to do our duty, and so may glorify thee our father in heaven, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God,
which is beyond all understanding,
guard your hearts and your thoughts
in Christ Jesus.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with us all.

This day and forever more.

All **Amen.**



ARMY

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