

landed in the thick of the men with terrible results but with safety to the two men in it, and it was freely admitted by all who witnessed it that the pilot lost his life in a most gallant attempt to avoid crashing amongst the dense mass of men." Mr George concluded "I heard it said by the airmen there that air currents around Fort Burgoyne were very bad and this was probably the cause of the accident", while the Coroner's Inquest was advised "nothing was wrong with the aircraft."

Both Flt Lt Talbot (aged 28) and Air Mechanic Hampson (aged 24) were unconscious when help reached them. Although Talbot died from multiple injuries whilst being lifted into the ambulance, Hampson was taken to the Military Hospital, Western Heights, Dover, where he died from multiple injuries sustained in the crash the following day, June 30th, 1916. A motor fitter by trade

according to the 1911 census Abraham Hampson had joined the Royal Naval Air Service on December 7th, 1915. He was given the service number F10086 and the rank of Air Mechanic 1st Class.

Abraham Hampson is buried in Philips Park Cemetery, Miles Platting, Manchester, Lancashire. Geoffrey Talbot was interred at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire, the register entry was signed by his uncle the Revd. F. H. Hodgson.

**Some records show the location of the plane's take off as HMS President II. This was the accounting base for the RNAS. Someone listed at President II could also be on a ship or boat [or RNAS Camp] too small for its own paymaster.*

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS **Ann Burke**

All Change

Firstly, I must thank Sheila Cope for her years of service as Membership Secretary, she continues to be an invaluable help to me in my new role. Sheila grew up in Dover so knows a great many people and her knowledge is so good with 'who's who'. Happy retirement my friend and thank you.

We have had quite a few new members since the last newsletter. They are Mr & Mrs Crowther, from Canterbury, Mr Crowther was our speaker at our April meeting, he spoke about Maison Dieu and the works going on there. Mr L J Oliver, Dover, Mr Oliver's relative was one of Dover's Forgotten Commandoes that Phil Eyden wrote about in his book that was televised. Mr C Valdus, from Rainham, Mr

Valdus is involved with Fort Burgoyne and gives talks on the subject. Mrs M Formaggi, Dover, Mrs Formaggi is interested in writing for the Newsletter. And finally, Mr R Edwards, Dover and Mr P Dawkins. We number 496 now, very close to that magical 500 member target.

We have had several renewals lately. If you want to renew by bank transfer the details are, The Dover Society, sort code 20-02-62 and the account number is 80864803. Cash and cheques are still very welcome, my address is in the front of the newsletter if you wish to renew by post or in person.

I want to thank you all for making me so very welcome, despite my Yorkshire accent!