

JOHN BERESFORD CONNOLLY

John Beresford Connolly was born in the East Indies on 7th August 1864 and joined the Army as a 14 year old boy on 7 August 1878. In 1881, he is recorded as being a bugler, Army Hospital Corps. By October 1885, he held the rank of Sergeant, Medical Staff Corps at the "Curragh Camp" and, as a result, earned an entitlement to The Egypt Medal (with Suakin bar) and the Khedive Bronze Star for the 1885 Sudan Expedition.

Between 1892-1896 he did duty in Ceylon. He was recommended for the LSGC Medal on 1st October 1897, being promoted to Sergeant Major in 6 February 1899. By February 1900, in the 3rd Company, RAMC he was attached to 2nd Division Field Hospital in South Africa.



2nd Division Field Hospital in South Africa

He served as Hon. Lieutenant and Quarter Master with the RAMC in South Africa during the Second Anglo-Boer War participating in the advance on Kimberley, the actions at Magersfontein, Poplar Grove and Driefontein. He later served in the Orange Free State (December 1900 to January 1901) and thereafter in the Cape Colony until the end of hostilities in May 1902. In 1907 he is doing duty at the Royal Victorian Hospital, Netley, Southampton. In March 1910, he is recorded as being an Hon. Captain.

He is said to have died in South Africa on 19 October 1913. No archival record has been found.

The 1881 United Kingdom Census notes the following :

resident in the Army Hospital Corps Depot, Aldershot, Hampshire and under the command of Charles Bedding, were 5 occupants, one of whom was John Beresford Connolly, aged 16 years, a British subject born in the East Indies and normally resident in Newcross, Kent. He was a bugler.

Including research and a few photographs of the 2nd Divisional Field Hospital and No 8 General Hospital during the Second Anglo-Boer War.



Surgical Wagon of the 2nd Division Field Hospital

John Beresford Connolly was awarded the Egypt Medal 1882-89 bar:
Suakin 1885 [inscribed 4120 Sergt. J.B. Connolly M.S. Corps]; QSA
3 bars: CC, Paard, Drief; KSA 2 bars: SA '01, SA'02 [inscribed Lt
& Qr Mr J.B. Connolly R.A.M.C]; LSGC Medal (Vict.) 2nd type
[inscribed 4120 1/C1 S. Sgt J.B. Connolly M.S.C.]; Khedive Star
1884-6 unnamed as issued.



Unusually, in the first four medals there is engraved naming; and on the QSA, the naming is "upside down".

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints :
<http://www.familysearch.org>
2. South African Archives Repository, Roeland Street, Cap Town
3. Personal Communication: 2009 Ann Shuttleworth, Australia

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ADDENDUM 2009:

He died on 19 October 1913. (49y) with his death registered in England {Reg John B Conolly Croydon Dec ¼ 1913 Vol 2a p 430} (Ref: 3)