

**St. Oswald Churchyard,  
Lythe, North Yorkshire  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**26278 GUNNER**

**R. C. C. PHIPPS**

**AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY**

**6TH DECEMBER, 1916**

## Russell Constantine Charles PHIPPS

Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was born on 11th March, 1883 at Beaudesert, Moreton, Queensland to parents Henry George Russell Phipps & Caroline Georgina Norma Phipps (nee Leith-Hay). (Date & Parents as listed on Queensland Births Deaths & Marriages website). (Date of birth listed by Brisbane Grammar School – 9th March, 1883).

Russell Constantine Charles Phipps attended Brisbane Grammar School, Brisbane, Queensland.

Lord Henry George Russell Phipps, father of Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, died on 27th November, 1915 in Queensland.

The 1905 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Oxley, Beaudesert, Queensland recorded Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, Farmer from Tewhanga.

The 1908 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Moreton, Beaudesert, Queensland recorded Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, Grazier from Tewhanga.

Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was aged 32 years & 11 months, single & a Grazier from Upper Logan, Queensland when he enlisted at Brisbane, Queensland on 14th February, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 26278 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Lady Henry Norma Cicely Gray Phipps, Gleneagle, Upper Logan, Queensland.

Private Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 22nd February, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to Field Artillery Depot on 25th May, 1916 as Gunner then transferred to 20th Reinforcements of Field Artillery on 6th June, 1916. Gunner Phipps was posted to 3rd F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) 19 Reinforcements on 16th June, 1916.

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Mashobra* (A47) on 14th September, 1916 with the 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, 19th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was marched in to Australian Artillery Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 2nd November, 1916.

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was admitted to Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 3rd December, 1916 with Influenza – seriously ill. He was reported as “*dangerous and serious illness*” on 4th December, 1916.

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps died on morning of 6th December, 1916 at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, Wiltshire, England from Influenza & Cerebral Spinal Fever.

A death for Russell C. C. Phipps, aged 32, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Pewsey, Wiltshire, England.

Lady H. N. C. Phipps, Glen Eagle, Upper Logan, Queensland was advised by Base Records of 8th December, 1916 that her son was seriously ill with Influenza.

Lieutenant Colonel, R.A.M.C., Officer in Charge, Military Hospital, Tidworth wrote to The Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. 130 Horseferry Road, London on 9th December, 1916 concerning 26278 Gunner R. C. C. Phipps, Australian Artillery Training Depot, 3rd Brigade: “*I beg to report that the soldier marginally named, who died in this hospital on the 6-12-16, was sent to Whitby for interment by Lord Normanby on the 8th instant. (Address) Lord Normanby, Mulgrave Castle, Lythe, Whitby, Yorks.*”

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was buried on 9th December, 1916 in St. Oswald Churchyard, Lythe, North Yorkshire, England – South part with a Private Burial. He now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Base Records wrote to Lord Normandy, Mulgrave, Castle Lythe, Whitley, Yorks on 28th March, 1917 "*Information has been received from the Lucknow Isolation Hospital Tidworth, that the Body of the late No. 26278, Pte Phipps, R. C. C. 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, A.I.F. was sent to your residence for interment. I would esteem it a favour, if you would supply this office as to the following particulars, Grave site, Grave Site No, Cemetery, and date of Burial, for records purposes in this office.*"

Newspaper item – The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 24 February, 1917:

#### PERSONAL NOTES

*An English exchange to hand contains reference to the death of Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, who died recently whilst on service with the A.I.F. The deceased was the eldest son of the late Lord Henry George Phipps, third son of the second Marquis of Normanby, and nephew of the Rev. the Marquis of Normanby, Mulgrave Castle. The remains of the late Gunner Phipps were laid to rest in the village of Lythe, the body being conveyed from Tidworth camp to Whitby, and thence to Mulgrave Castle, the seat of the Marquis and Marchioness of Normanby. Accompanying the remains was a detachment of 21 of the deceased's comrades, also from Brisbane, and who at that time were in training at Salisbury Plain. The detachment was in charge of Warrant-officer S. J. Patton, from Victoria. On arrival at the castle the coffin was placed upon a catafalque in the gallery, covered with a Union Jack, and surrounded by a number of beautiful floral tokens. The journey from Mulgrave Castle to St. Oswald's Church took place in a pitiless downpour of rain, accompanied by a strong wind, but the weather conditions did not deter many from paying a last tribute of respect to the soldier scion of a noble house. The chief mourners were the Rev. the Marquis and Marchioness of Normanby, Katharine Countess of Ellesmere, and Miss Sarah Macintyre. After an impressive funeral service the coffin was lowered into the moss and flowerlined grave, the committal sentences were pronounced, the firing party fired three volleys, and the impressive service was concluded by the buglers playing the "Last Post."*

The Records Section received notification on 7th January, 1917 that Next-of-kin previously registered for the late Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was listed as his Mother – Mrs Cicely Gray Phipps, Gleneagle, Upper Logan, Queensland. This was changed & entered on the Card on 12th January, 1917 to show the next of kin as his Mother – Lady Henry Phipps, Gleneagle, Upper Logan, Queensland.

From Service Record file of Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps:

Statement re finding and Will of the late No. 26278 Gunner Phipps, R. C. C. 19th Reinforcements, 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, A.I.F.

STATEMENT.

On the morning of December 4th 1916. Gunner. R. C. Phipps, No.26278 19th-3rd Brigade A.I.F. A patient in my Ward (13 1 Block). asked me for note paper and envelope, having none other I gave him an official envelope and a sheet of notepaper.

I saw him writing on paper and asked if he would like the letter posted, when he said "No"

Military Hospital Lucy. Cowbridge  
Tidworth. Staff Nurse.Q.A.I.175R.  
Dec. 7th 1916.

Witnesses :- ( Ethel. A. Dawson.(Sister)  
( Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.  
( Emily. C.Cox.  
( Matron Q.A.I.M.N.S.R

WILL.

Russell Charles Constantine Phipps 4/12/16.

All my belongings and all my money to be left to Lady Henry Phipps.  
Nr. Whonga, Gleneagle, Upper Logan. 4/12/1916.

Lucknow Barracks,  
Isolation Hospital.  
Tidworth.  
5/12/16.

I do certify that on the 5th of December 1916, while looking for  
and address of Gunner. R. C. Phipps found his Will in an open  
envelope.

J.F.Clark, S.N.R,

Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.

Witnesses.

( G. J. Pullin, Q.A.I.M.N.S.R,  
( Sister in Charge.  
(  
( E. M. Lampitt. S.N.R.  
( Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Base Records contacted Lady H. Phipps, Gleneagle, Upper Logan, Queensland, on 24th March, 1921 stating she was noted as the registered next-of-kin of the late Gunner R. C. Phipps but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & was specifically asked if his father was still alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

The Commonwealth Bank, Savings Bank Department, Sydney, NSW wrote to The Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne, on 14th September, 1917 requesting a certificate of death of the late Gunner R. C. C. Phipps. Base Records sent a Certificate of report of Death of the late No. 26278, Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps to The Superintendent, Savings Bank Department, Commonwealth Bank, Sydney, NSW on 27th September, 1917.

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Gunner Phipps' mother – Lady Phipps, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

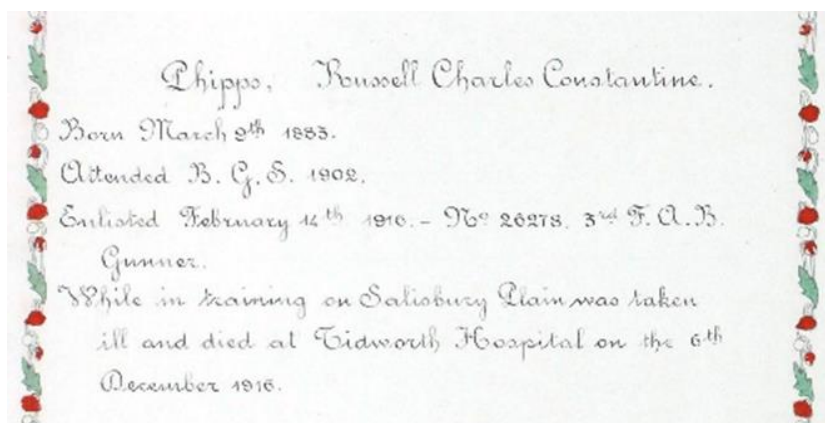
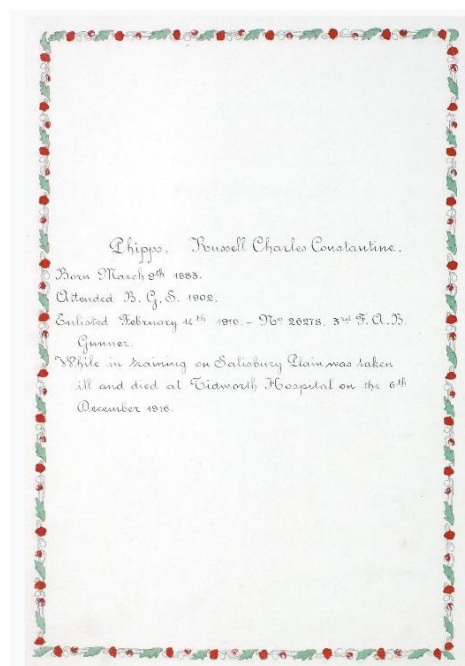
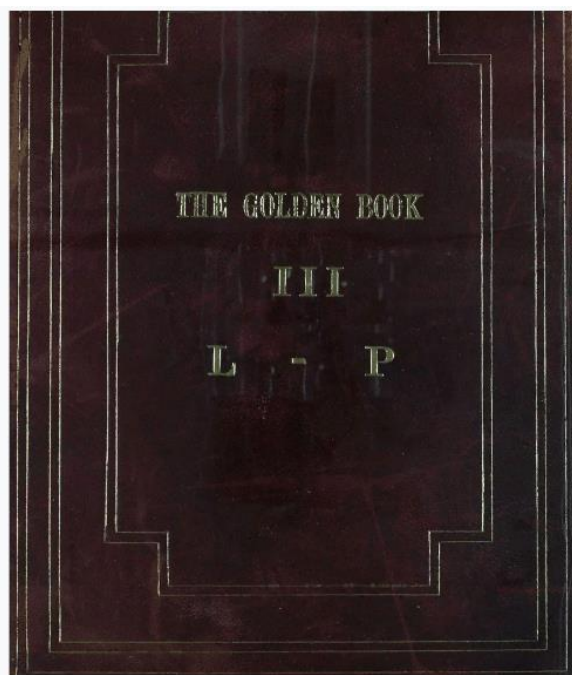
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Gunner R. C. C. Phipps – service number 26278, of Australian Field Artillery. No family details are listed.

Gunner R. C. C. Phipps is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 13.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

Russell Charles Constantine Phipps is remembered in the Brisbane Grammar School Golden Book Volume 3 (L – P)



R. C. C. Phipps is remembered on the Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library WW1 Honour Board 2, located in War Memorial Library, Brisbane Grammar School, 70 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane, Queensland.



**Brisbane Grammar School Memorial Library WW1 Honour Board 2**

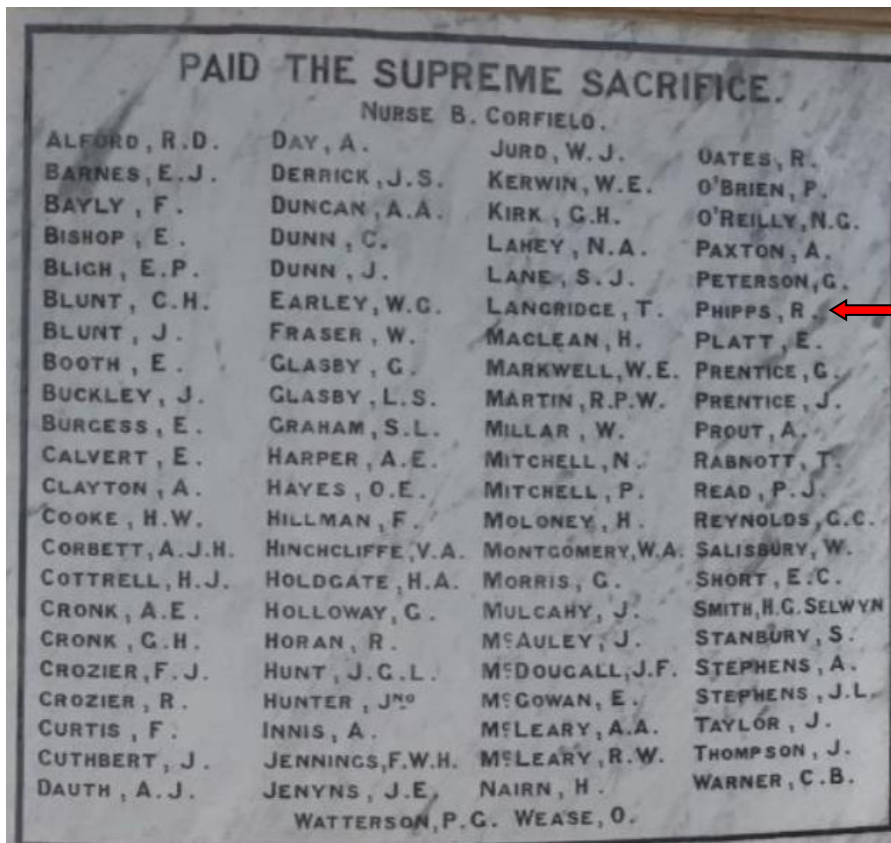
*(Photo from Queensland War Memorial Register)*

R. Phipps is remembered on the Beaudesert War Memorial, located on William Street, Beaudesert, Queensland.



Beaudesert War Memorial (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Brendan Downs)





Beaudesert War Memorial

R. Phipps is remembered on the Woodhill Honour Roll for 1914 – 1918.



Woodhill Honour Roll (Photo from Queensland War Memorial Register)



R. Phipps is remembered on the Woodhill War Memorial, located outside the Community Hall, 6km north of Beaudesert, Mount Lindesay Highway, Woodhill, Queensland.



**Woodhill War Memorial** (Photos from Queensland War Memorial Register)

Russell Constantine Charles Phipps is remembered on the Lythe War Memorial, located in the grounds of Church of St. Oswald, Lythe Bank, Whitby, England.



**Lythe War Memorial**



**Lythe War Memorial** (Photos by Dimitrios Corcodilos)

Russell C. C. Phipps is named on the plaque inside St. Oswald's Church remembering those named on War Memorial in Churchyard.



REMEMBER BEFORE GOD THE SEVENTEEN  
MEN OF THIS PARISH AND SEVEN UNKNOWN  
SAILORS WHOSE MEMORIAL STANDS IN OUR  
CHURCHYARD.

HENRY ATKINSON	WILLIAM MEAD
CHARLES G. BRETT	RUSSELL C.C. PHIPPS
CHARLES W. CORBETT	HARRY PYBUS
HENRY COWEN	E.A. RIPPINGILLE
THOMAS DIXON	THOMAS STANFORTH
HARRY GIBBON	WILLIAM B. TAYLOR
JOHN W. GIBBON	FREDERICK WALKER
EUSTACE W. HARLAND	JOHN H. WALKER
FRANCIS E. MEAD	SEVEN UNKNOWN

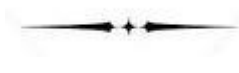
SAILORS BURIED AT LYTHE 1914-1918.  
THEY GAVE THEIR LIVES.

1939-1945  
ALISTAIR ROSS MCKELLAR  
JOHN WILLIAM PYBUS  
WILLIAM LLOYD RAWSON

(Photo from Twitter - @Bill4112)

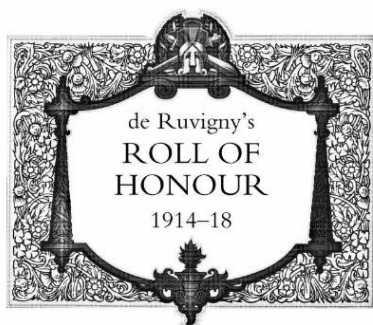
(45 pages of Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps' Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives*



**Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps**





A BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF MEMBERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

"And he Passed over... and all the Trumpets sounded for him on the other side."

PART THREE with some 1300 portraits



Russell C. C. Phipps.

**PHIPPS, RUSSELL CONSTANTINE CHARLES**, Gunner, No. 26278, 3rd Brigade, Australian (Field) Artillery Reinforcement, Australian Imperial Force, eldest s. of the late Lord Henry George Russell Phipps, of Te Wannga, Glen Eyre, Upper Logan, Brisbane, Queensland, Farmer (3rd s. of the 2nd Marquis of Normanby), by his wife, Norma, dau. of the late James Leith-Hay, of Leith Hall, co. Aberdeen; and nephew of the Rev. The Marquis of Normanby, Mulgrave Castle, Whitby; b. Beaudesert, Queensland, Australia, 14 April, 1883; educ. Brisbane Grammar School; was a Grazier; volunteered for Imperial Service, and joined the Australian Artillery early in Jan. 1916; came to England with his battery 3 Nov. of the same year, and died at the Tidmouth Camp, Salisbury Plain 6 Dec. following from pneumonia contracted while on active service. Buried in St. Oswald's Churchyard, Lyther, near Whitby; *unm*.

By filling their stomachs, children's commotions in the New York Herald... (text continues vertically in columns)



Harold Phillips.



William Howard Phipps.



Russell C. C. Phipps.



Douglas Stuart Phipps.



Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

**PHIPPS** – On the 6th of December, at Luckburn Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, England, of influenza, Gunner Russell C. C. Phipps, dearly beloved son of Lady Henry Phipps, Te Whanga, Gleneagle, Upper Logan.

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 12 December, 1916) & (The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 16 December, 1916)

## **DEATH**

PHILLIPS – On December 6, at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, England, of influenza, Gunner Russell C. C. Phipps, dearly beloved son of Lady Henry Phipps, Te Whanga, Gleneagle, Upper Logan.

(*The Daily Mail*, Brisbane, Queensland – 12 December, 1916) & (*The Daily Mail*, Brisbane, Queensland – 13 December, 1916)

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## **GENERAL WAR NEWS**

### **FUNERALS OF AUSTRALIANS**

#### **SON OF LORD PHIPPS BURIED**

(Published in "The Times")

Many Australians on Saturday attended the funerals of Lieut. Keith Debenham, of the Highland Light Infantry, son of Mr Robert Debenham, of Hopetoun road, Malvern, Victoria, and Gunner R. C. C. Phipps, of the Australian Field Artillery, eldest son of the late Lord Phipps, and a nephew of the Marquis of Normanby.

(*Warrnambool Standard*, Victoria – 13 December, 1916)

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## **DEATH**

PHIPPS – Died 6th December, at Lucknow Isolation Hospital, Tidworth, England, Gunner Russell C. C. Phipps, dearly beloved son of Lady Henry Phipps, Te Whanga, Gleneagle, Upper Logan.

(*The Beaudesert Times*, Queensland – 15 December, 1916)

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## **Roll of Honour**

### **Queensland Casualties**

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Two more casualty lists were issued on Monday morning. Following is the summary of casualty list No. 252....

#### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

Gnr. R. C. C. Phipps, Glen Eagle, 6/12/16

(*The Week*, Brisbane, Queensland – 22 December, 1916)

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## **Mainly About People**

Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, eldest son of the late Lord Henry George Phipps, and grandson of the second Marquis of Normanby, who died of pneumonia at Tidworth Camp, on December 6, joined the A. A. in Brisbane early last year.

(*The Daily News*, Perth, Western Australia – 24 February, 1917)

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# From PLOUGH to PEERAGE-PERHAPS



## Heir Presumptive TO OLD TITLE On Q'land Farm

### ROMANTIC STORY OF MAN WHO MAY ONE DAY RULE OVER FAMOUS CASTLE



IN A peaceful, rural setting, barely four miles from Ipswich, you will find him. There, in a rugged tract of bushland called Amberley, toils at his 53-acre farm, the heir presumptive to the marquises of Normandy.

HERE is a case in which Fate has revealed herself in her contrasted mood. She has divided a noble family of many centuries standing, giving one branch the dignity of wealth and title, and, as in the stories we loved as children, sending it to live in a castle amidst surroundings of fairy-like beauty. Mulgrave Castle, Whitby, Yorkshire, is the seat, and here youth and beauty, age and wisdom, have revelled and philosophised. Here in 1833, Oswald, the young Marquess, lives and rules his estate.

THE OTHER branch was sent many miles across the world and was deposited on the grim expanse of Queensland plains, where, restless with the changed conditions and years of ill-fortune, it finally settled on a miniature farm at Amberley. VIVIAN LOUIS Augustus Phipps, Australian Medical Corps (Woolan, Australia).



THE imposing and ancient Norman Castle, the ancestral home of the Earl of Mulgrave. In the picture above (pictured above), Vivian Phipps, a farmer, who toils on his small holding near Ipswich, is heir presumptive. Also pictured above is the coat of arms of the distinguished family, and on left is a view of the old castle ruins, which date back two several centuries. On extreme top left is the heir presumptive himself, Vivian Phipps, in the uniform of an Australian soldier.



Gunner R. C. C. Phipps, A.I.F., whose death in England in 1916 removed the then heir-presumptive to the title and brought the distinction to Vivian. The body of Gunner Phipps was buried from the stately Normanby Castle with all the simple ceremonial associated with the burial of his distinguished forbears.

17, & 18 April, 1883; d. 8 Dec. 1916, on active service.  
2. VIVIAN LOUIS AUGUSTUS, Australian Medical Corps (Woolan, Amberley, Ipswich, Queensland, Australia), heir presumptive, b. in 1884; m. 1921. 3. Marie Elaine, dau. of G. E. Elliott, and has issue.  
(1) Vivian Henry Blakeney, b. 1923.  
(2) Harvey Owen, b. 14 July, 1925  
(3) Maurine Elaine, b. 1921.  
(4) Daphne Margaret, b. 1 Jan. 1929.  
1. Laura Elizabeth Minnie, m. 1887, Arthur Walker, of the Logan, Queensland, and has issue.  
2. Katharine Georgina Constance, b. 2 Nov. 1851; m. 1920, Leslie Brocklebank.  
3. Norma Clorly Gray, b. 1887; m. 1916, Harry Clement David-

(Truth, Brisbane, Queensland - 24 December, 1933)

# PLOUGH TO PEERAGE

## Heir Presumptive Toils On Tiny Farm

### SOME DAY MAY RULE FAMOUS CASTLE

*Soldier Who Visited Baronial Hall Without Pyjamas*

**HORRIFIED STATELY BUTLER**

(From "Truth's" Brisbane Representative.)

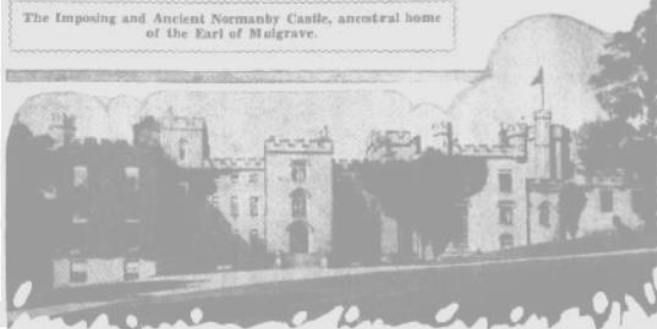
IN a peaceful, rural setting, barely four miles from Ipswich you will find him, in a rugged tract of bushland called Amberley. The heir presumptive to the marquesate of Normanby toils there on his 53-acre farm.

HERE is a case in which Fate has revealed herself in her contrariest mood. She has divided a noble family of many centuries standing, giving one branch the dignity of wealth and title, and sending it to live in a castle amidst surroundings of fairy-like beauty.

MULGRAVE CASTLE, Whitby, Yorkshire, is the family seat. There Oswald, the young Marquess, lives and rules his estate. The other branch of the family was sent out many miles across the world and deposited on the grim expanse of Queensland plains, where, restless with the changed conditions and years of ill-fortune, it finally settled on a miniature farm at Amberley.

"VIVIAN LOUIS AUGUSTUS PHIPPS, Australian Medical Corps (Woolan, Amberley, Ipswich, Queensland), heir presumptive, b. in 1884, m. 1921 Marie Elaine, dau. of G. E. Elliott, and his issue (1) Vivian Henry Blakeney, 1923, and three others."

The Imposing and Ancient Normanby Castle, ancestral home of the Earl of Mulgrave.



Coat of Arms of the Distinguished family.

**HOODOO BOOTH**

**Protests Go Against Him**

*Nine Little Cricket Boys Can Pack Bags For England*

**There Will Be Seven More, but What a Headache For Selectors!**

(SPECIAL TO "TRUTH" BY C. G. MACARTHNEY.)

SOME time ago I stated that there were five certainties for the cricket team to tour England next year—Woodfull, Bradman, McCabe, Odfield and O'Reilly. Recent events have borne this out. McCabe is ill, but there is every reason to believe that he will be fit to take his place in the side.

THERE is, in my opinion, every justification for adding a bow to that number, and I would name Punsford, Darling, Wall and Grimmett as having satisfied all expectations.

Only last season in England, "Toby" Freeman, the Kent slow bowler, again recorded almost 300 wickets for the year, an amazing performance, and he cannot be called a better bowler than Grim-

**IT WAS THE PREMATURE DEATH OF HIS ELDER BROTHER, GUNNER R. C. C. PHIPPS, IN 1916 (IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE GUNNER WAS THE HEIR-PRESUMPTIVE UP TILL THAT YEAR), THAT MADE VIVIAN NEXT IN LINE TO THE MARQUESATE.**

The "Whitby Gazette," December 15, 1916, gives an interesting account of his impressive burial, setting out that the breastplate on the coffin had the following engraved inscription:—

**No. 26278, Gunner Russell Constantine Charles Phipps, 3rd Brigade Australian Artillery. Died December 6th, 1916. Aged 32 years. Eldest son of Lord Henry Phipps, grandson of the 2nd Marquess of Normanby.**

The heir presumptive had a wistful look as he recalled all those incidents to "Truth."

**ON A LITTLE SHANTY ON THE FARM THERE IS CARVED WITH A BOYISH HAND THE MOTTO OF THEIR CREST, "VIRTUTE QUIES."**

VIVIAN SMILED AS HE LOOKED AT IT. "THERE ARE BUT FOUR PHIPPS LEFT," HE SAID PROUDLY, "THE PRESENT MARQUESS, MYSELF, AND MY TWO SONS.

"BUT IT IS GETTING LATE,"

(Truth, Sydney, NSW – 31 December, 1933)



### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Private R. C. C. Phipps does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **St. Oswald Churchyard, Lythe, North Yorkshire, England**

St. Oswald Churchyard, Lythe contains 5 Commonwealth War Graves – all relating to World War 1.



*(Photo by Dimitrios Corcodilos)*

Photo of Private R. C. C. Phipps' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Oswald Churchyard, Lythe, North Yorkshire, England.



*(Photo from Twitter @Bill4112)*



*(Photo by Dimitrios Corcodilos)*