

ALAN EDWARD SCARTH was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Scarth of Seeyok, Mirik, Northern Bengal. He was born at Mangaldai, Assam, on February 2, 1896.

Coming to England to the care of his uncle, the Rev. C. H. Crossley of Willingham Rectory, Cambridge, he entered Oundle (Crosby House) in September 1911, leaving in December 1913.

After leaving school he returned to India.

In February 1915 he joined the Indian Army Reserve of Officers, and was for some time in training with the 1st Yorkshire Regiment at Rawal Pindi, before being attached to the Corps of Guides at Marden, N.W. Frontier.

In October 1916 he was sent, in charge of the Gurkha Company of the Corps of Guides, to Mesopotamia, and was there attached to the 53rd Sikhs. With them he took part in the advance to Baghdad.

Scarth was hit on the second day of the battle of Istabulat, when the 53rd suffered heavy losses, and died in the first-aid station.

An Officer of the Guides wrote: "It may interest you to know that his (Alan's) company of Gurkhas did splendidly, in fact brilliantly—no less than three generals have congratulated our C.O. on this company . . . and this success was no doubt due to your son's example and leadership, as he was a fine officer."



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